















**FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY**  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

# Utah

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Utah. Before reading this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

## RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library has many of the records listed in this outline. The library's major holdings of Utah records include census, church, cemetery, military, and vital records.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, compact disc, and computer numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for Family History Library. These numbers may be used to locate materials in the Family History Library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers.

You can use the computer number if you have access to the Family History Library Catalog on computer. The Computer Number Search is the fastest way to find a source in the catalog.

The Internet is of growing importance to genealogists. Sources found on the Internet are cited in this outline with their Universal Resource Locator (URL) address.

## FAMILYSEARCH™

### *FamilySearch at Family History Centers.*

FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing millions of names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your family history research. Some of the records come from compiled sources, others have been extracted from original sources. The Family History Library and many Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch. A few FamilySearch resource files, for example, the *U.S. Social Security Death Index*, and the *U.S. Military Index*, are found on the Family History Library and Family History Center version of FamilySearch, but not on the FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service.

Family History Library and Family History Center computers with FamilySearch do not have access to the Internet, computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. Those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations. Limited Internet access is on a few computers in the Automated Resource Center in the Family History Library.

**FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service.** The Internet site at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) allows you to preserve your genealogy, order Family History Library publications, learn research strategies, and look for information about your ancestors in the following resources:

*Ancestral File* contains over 35 million names organized into families and pedigrees.

*International Genealogical Index* is an index of over 600 million names extracted out of vital records primarily from the British Isles, North America, and northern Europe.

*Family History Library Catalog* is a description and classification of over 2 million microfilm reels and hundreds of thousands of genealogical books. You can search the catalog by family name, locality, author, book or film number.

*SourceGuide* contains a collection of over 150 "how-to" research outlines for states, nations, or genealogy topics, an extensive glossary of word meanings, and a catalog helper.

*Family History Centers* lists locations where you can order the microfilms described in the Family History Library Catalog and *SourceGuide*.

*Web Sites* is a categorized list of thousands of links to Internet sites related to family history.

*Collaboration Lists* links you to user-created mailing lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics.

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# FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog available at the library, at each Family History Center, and on the Internet at [www.familysearch.org/Search/searchcatalog.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Search/searchcatalog.asp). To find a record in the Family History Library Catalog, look in the Locality Search for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as (country, state, county, and town):

**UNITED STATES - CENSUS**  
**UTAH - MILITARY RECORDS**

**UTAH, SALT LAKE - VITAL RECORDS**  
**UTAH, SALT LAKE, SALT LAKE CITY - CEMETERIES**

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

**UNITED STATES - CENSUS**  
**UTAH - MILITARY RECORDS**  
**UTAH, SALT LAKE - VITAL RECORDS**  
**UTAH, SALT LAKE, SALT LAKE CITY - CEMETERIES**

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the Family History Library Catalog.

## RECORD SELECTION TABLE: UTAH

This table can help you decide which records to search. It is most helpful for post-1847 research.

1. In column 1 find the goal you selected.
2. In column 2 find the types of records most likely to have the information you need.
3. In column 3 find additional record types that may be useful.
4. Then look for the record type you need in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog. Some records are not at the Library.

Note: Records of previous research (genealogy, biography, history, periodicals, and societies) are useful for most goals, but are not listed unless they are *especially* helpful.

1. If You Need	2. Look First In	3. Then Search
Age	Census, Vital Records, Church Records	Obituaries, Cemeteries, Military Records
Birth date	Vital Records, Church Records, Cemeteries	Obituaries, Census, Military Records
Birthplace	Vital Records, Church Records, Census	Obituaries, Genealogy, Biography
Boundaries and Origins	Gazetteers, Maps	History
Children	Vital Records, Census, Church Records	Obituaries, Genealogy, Probate Records
City or parish of foreign birth	Naturalization and Citizenship, Church Records, Genealogy	Obituaries, Vital Records, Emigration and Immigration
Country of foreign birth	Census, Naturalization and Citizenship, Emigration and Immigration	Church Records, Vital Records, Obituaries
Death information	Vital Records, Obituaries, Cemeteries	Probate Records, Church Records, Military Records
Divorce	Divorce Records, Church Records, Court Records	Newspapers, Biography, Vital Records
Ethnic Background	Minorities, Native Races, Census	Naturalization and Citizenship, Church Records, Societies
Historical background	History, Biography, Church Records	Periodicals, Minorities
Immigration date	Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Census	Obituaries, Societies, Church Records
Living relatives	Genealogy, Church Records, Obituaries	Directories, Census, Probate Records
Maiden name	Vital Records, Church Records, Newspapers	Obituaries, Cemeteries, Probate Records,



Marriage information	Vital Records, Church Records, Newspapers	Cemeteries, Military Records, Divorce Records
Naturalization	Naturalization and Citizenship, Census	Biography, Obituaries, Court Records
Occupation	Census, Directories, Biography	Obituaries, Land and Property, Court Records
Other family members	Obituaries, Genealogy, Census	Church Records, Probate Records, Cemeteries
Parents	Vital Records, Church Records, Obituaries	Biography, Census, Probate Records
Physical description	Military Records, Biography, Naturalization and Citizenship	Vital Records, Genealogy
Place-finding aids	Gazetteers, Maps, Directories	History, Periodicals
Places of residence	Census, Land and Property, Obituaries	Church Records, Biography, Directories
Place of residence when you know only the county	Census, Vital Records, Land and Property	Probate Records, Directories, Taxation
Place of residence when you know only the state	Census, Biography, Military Records	Obituaries, Genealogy, Church Records
Previous research (compiled genealogy)	Genealogy, Biography, Societies	Archives and Libraries, Periodicals
Religion	Church Records, History, Biography	Cemeteries, Obituaries, Minorities
Social activities	Societies, Biography, Obituaries	Cemeteries, Directories, Newspaper

## ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives and libraries have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers. When other sections of this outline refer to one of these institutions, return to this section to obtain the address. Before you visit an archive or a library, contact the organization and ask for information on the collection, hours, services, and fees.

- Family History Library  
35 North West Temple Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84150  
Telephone: 801-240-2331  
Fax: 801-240-1584  
E-mail: fhl@ldschurch.org  
Internet address: www.familysearch.org

This is the largest library devoted to genealogical research in the world. It is associated with Family History Centers throughout the world. The holdings include a large collection of Utah records. Information on the hours, holidays, catalog, collection, services, key resources, and how to prepare to visit the library are described in *Library Services and Resources* (32957).

The following guide book will help in using the library. It gives suggestions on preparing to visit the library, genealogy research tips, and helps in using the library.

Parker, J. Carlyle. *Going to Salt Lake City to Do Family History Research*. 3rd ed. Turlock, Calif.: Marietta

Publishing, 1996. (FHL book 979.2258 J5p 1996; computer number 777854.)

A history of the Genealogical Society of Utah was written during the centennial of the society. This book covers the beginning of the society to 1994. It contains a history of the library, of microfilming, and an overview of the Granite Mountain Records Vault.

Allen, James B., Jessie L. Embry and Kahlile Mehr. *Hearts Turned to the Fathers: A History of the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1894-1994*. Provo, Utah: BYU Studies, Brigham Young University, 1995. (FHL book 979.2258 C4a; computer number 747905.)

- Utah State Archives  
Archives Building  
State Capitol  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114  
Telephone: 801-538-3013  
Fax: 801-538-3354  
Internet address: www.archives.state.ut.us

The Utah State Archives Internet site has current information, a list of frequently asked questions, genealogical research helps, and information leaflets describing selected records. You may also visit the archives and receive free brochures.

An older guide to the Utah State Archives available on fiche is:

Utah State Archives and Records Service. *Guide to Official Records of Genealogical Value in the State of Utah*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Records Service, 1980. (FHL book 979.2 A33ut; fiche 6051294; computer number 18145.) Records created by federal, state, and county governments useful for genealogical research are listed in this publication. This guide lists the holdings as of 1980 and is not a complete list. It is arranged according to the agency creating the record. Descriptions of the records help determine their usefulness and show the time period covered.

- National Archives—Rocky Mountain Region  
(Denver)  
Building 48, Denver Federal Center  
West 6th Avenue & Kipling  
Denver, CO 80225  
Telephone: 303-236-0817  
Fax: 303-236-9354  
Internet address: [www.nara.gov/regional/denver.html](http://www.nara.gov/regional/denver.html)  
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 25307  
Denver, CO 80225
- Utah State Historical Society Library  
300 Rio Grande  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1182  
Telephone: 801-533-3535  
Fax: 801-533-3504  
Internet address: [www.history.state.ut.us.html](http://www.history.state.ut.us.html)

The Utah State Historical Society publishes a quarterly magazine helpful for Utah research. Look in the "Periodical" section of this outline for more information. A guide to some manuscripts and photographs at the Utah State Historical Society is:

Utah State Historical Society. *A Guide to Unpublished Materials at the Utah State Historical Society*. Salt Lake City: The Society, 1989. (FHL book 979.2258 A3or 1989; computer number 604207). Only large collections of manuscripts are listed. The manuscripts and photographs are listed by person or topic. No index or cross reference is included.

- Church History Library and Church Archives  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
50 East North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3800  
Library telephone: 801-240-2745  
Archives telephone: 801-240-2272

The Church History Library and the Church Archives are in the east wing of the Church Office Building. You will need to bring identification with a photograph, such as a driver's license. Church History Library material does not circulate to Family History Centers.

- Harold B. Lee Library  
Brigham Young University  
Provo, UT 84602  
Telephone: 801-378-2926  
Utah Valley Regional Family History Center  
Telephone: 801-378-6200  
General Reference Telephone: 801-378-2927  
Fax: 801-538-1050  
Internet address: [www.lib.byu.edu/dept/uvrfhc](http://www.lib.byu.edu/dept/uvrfhc)
- Marriott Library  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112  
Telephone: 801-581-8364  
Fax: 801-585-3464  
Internet address: [www.lib.utah.edu/index.phtml](http://www.lib.utah.edu/index.phtml)
- Merrill Library  
Utah State University  
Logan, UT 84322  
Telephone: 801-797-2678  
Fax: 801-797-2880
- Salt Lake City Public Library  
209 East 500 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
Telephone: 801-524-8200  
Fax: 801-524-8289
- Gerald R. Sherratt Library Special Collections  
Southern Utah University  
351 Center Street  
Cedar City, UT 84720  
Telephone: 435-586-7933  
435-586-1955  
Fax: 435-865-8152
- Stewart Library  
Weber State University  
2901 University Circle  
Ogden, UT 84408-2901  
Telephone: 801-626-6545  
Fax: 801-626-7045

RLIN, a guide to archives and manuscript collections in selected Utah repositories, is an online national database maintained by the Research Libraries Group accessible at member libraries. In Utah, the Utah State Archives, Utah State Historical Society, and Brigham Young University's library catalogs are online. Also, a 1990 edition of RLIN is available on a floppy disk in the Automated Resource Center at the Family History Library or in the *LDS Family History Suite*.

*Guide to Archives and Manuscript Collections in Selected Utah Repositories*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1990. (FHL compact disc no. 4 pts. 1-4; computer number 726843.) The compact disc



copy is available through the Utah State Archives. It is also part of the *LDS Family History Suite 2* described in the "Biography" section of this outline.

The Family History Library has published directories for the libraries in Utah. One covers the special libraries and the other lists the public libraries.

*Directory of Special Information Resources in Utah*. Salt Lake City: Utah Library Association, 1987. (FHL book 979.2 J54 1987; computer number 467586.)

*Directory of Public Libraries in Utah, 1988-1989*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Library Division, 1989. (FHL book 979.2 J54d; computer number 536605.)

Some societies have biographical and genealogical records. For example, the Society of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers has a library and has published many histories. See the "Societies" section of this outline for more information.

## Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services can help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries and on-line catalogs.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Utah in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost. Addresses on the Internet are subject to frequent changes. The following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service [Internet site]. [Salt Lake City]: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 22 March 1999 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). At this site you can access the Family History Library Catalog, *Ancestral File*, *International Genealogical Index*, *SourceGuide*, lists of Family History Centers, web sites related to family history, and lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics. You can also learn about and order Family History Library publications.

Howells, Cyndi. "U.S. - Utah - UT." In Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet [Internet site]. Puyallup, Wash.: Cyndi Howells, 26 October 1999 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.cyndislist.com/ut.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/ut.htm). This list has more links to other Utah genealogical sites and describes more resources than any other site on the Internet.

"Utah USGenWeb." In The USGenWeb Project [Internet site]. N.p., 30 December 1997 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.lofthouse.com/utgenweb/index.html](http://www.lofthouse.com/utgenweb/index.html). This is a cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet, for each county, state, and country.

"United States Resources: Utah." In RootsWeb [Internet site]. N.p., 22 August 1999 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/ut.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/ut.html). This list of sites and resources includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

Gaunt, Christine and John Fuller. "Utah Resources." In Genealogy Resources on the Internet [Internet site]. N.p., 6 January 1998 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~cgaunt/utah.html>. This site provides links to vital record offices, genealogical and historical societies, queries, mailing lists, county-by-county Internet sites, and gopher sites.

"UT GenExchange." In Genealogical Exchange & Surname Registry [Internet site]. N.p., 1996-1999 [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.genexchange.com/ut/index.cfm](http://www.genexchange.com/ut/index.cfm). This site brings searchable data to genealogists including databases (church, cemetery, census, land, immigration, naturalization, and vital records), directories, historical accounts, mailing lists, queries, local surname researchers, and look-up volunteers.

Ancestry.com [Internet site]. Orem, Utah: Ancestry, 1998, 1999 [cited 20 October 1999]. Available at [www.ancestry.com/](http://www.ancestry.com/). Several of their more general databases are available for free. The databases about Utah ancestors found in the *LDS Family History Suite 2* (described in the "Biography" section this outline) are available at this site for a subscription fee.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

Some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch. These computers do *not* have access to on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. You can

use these services at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

## BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the individual's birth, marriage, and death information, and the names of his or her parents, children, or other family members. Biographies often include photographs, family traditions and stories, clues about an ancestor's place of origin, places of residence, church affiliation, military service, and activities within the community. The information must be used carefully, however, because there may be inaccuracies. Verify biographical information with original records.

Many new sources are being produced on compact disc. The following source is helpful when searching for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and other people of Utah.

*LDS Family History Suite 2*. Provo, Utah: Infobases, 1999. (FHL compact disc no. 205; title number 837165.) This includes 31 indexes and sources of biographies such as Wiggins's *Mormons and Their Neighbors*. This also includes a large selection of the historical books, journals, and diaries not available elsewhere. To use the suite, first select the database you would like to search. The two databases that include information on Utah families are the *Vital Records Library Infoware*, and the *Pioneer Heritage Library*. Both include numerous works. Each database is searchable on every word and allows "wild card" searches. When you find a name, you see the actual entry in the context of the book. These databases are also available for a subscription fee at the Ancestry.com Internet site discussed in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline.

## Indexes

A major index to biographical sources for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and many nonmembers living in Utah is:

*Early Church Information File*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1991. (FHL films 1750655-729; computer number 637304.) This is an alphabetical card index to over 1 million names in more than 1,200 sources. The index usually gives a person's name and date of an event, such as birth, marriage, or death, along with source references. The sources may supply additional family history information. For further details see *Early Church Information File Resource Guide* (34544).

Another smaller index is:

Marvin E. Wiggins. *Mormons and Their Neighbors: An Index of over 75,000 Biographical Sketches from 1820 to the Present*. 2 vols. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, 1984. (FHL book 978 D32w; computer number 253259.) This is an index to 75,734 biographical sketches from 194 published sources from several states. This is indexed in the *Early Church Information File* and included in the *LDS Family History Suite 2*.

## Biographical Encyclopedias

The Family History Library has copies of published biographical sources. Major biographical encyclopedias are:

Esshom, Frank. *Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah*. 1913. Reprint, Salt Lake City: Western Epics, 1966. (FHL book 979.2 D3e; film 1000617; fiche 6053257; computer number 46201.) This includes photographs, genealogies, and biographies for pioneers coming to Utah before the railroad and for prominent men of Utah. It is not a complete listing. Part one includes the photographs. Part two has biographies, names of Mormon Battalion members, and members of the Brigham Young company that came to Utah, July 24, 1847. This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*. The information also is included in both *The Pioneer Heritage CD-ROM* and *LDS Family History Suite*.

International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers. *Pioneer Women of Faith and Fortitude*. 4 vols. Salt Lake City: Society, 1998. (FHL book 979 D36p; title number 829588.) This set of books has portraits, genealogical data, and biographical sketches of Mormon pioneer women submitted by their descendants. It is indexed by the women's maiden names and married names.

Jakeman, James T. *Album "Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and Their Mothers."* N.p.: Western Album, [192-?]. (FHL book 979.2 D2j; film 1421989 item 2; computer number 143419.) This book has biographical sketches that may list parents, birth date and place, spouse, achievements, church callings, pioneer experiences, residences, death information, and portraits of early Latter-day Saint women who came to Utah. This is indexed in the *Early Church Information File* and included in the *LDS Family History Suite* and *Pioneer Heritage CD-ROM*.

National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. *Conquerors of the West: Stalwart Mormon Pioneers*. 4 vols. N.p.: Agreka Books, 1999. (FHL book 979 D3y; title number 815310.) This includes an index,



portraits, genealogical data, and a short biographical sketch of Mormon pioneer men submitted by their descendants.

*Portrait, Genealogical and Biographical Record of the State of Utah.* Chicago: National Historical Record, 1902. (FHL film 446501; computer number 148107.) This contains biographies of many well-known citizens of the past. It includes an index.

*Sketches of the Inter-Mountain States: Together with Biographies of Many Prominent and Progressive Citizens Who Have Helped in the Development and History-Making of this Marvelous Region.* Salt Lake City: Salt Lake Tribune, 1909. (FHL book 979 D3s; film 1000614; computer number 264251.) This is indexed by individual names. It gives birth and marriage information and names of parents, spouse, and children. It also lists when they came to the region and major accomplishments. A history of intermountain businesses is included.

Barnum, Roberta B. and Paul R. Peine. *Saint George, Utah, Original Pioneers: December 1, 1861-May 10 1869.* N.p., 1999. (FHL book 979.248/S1 H2b; title number 838094.) This book contains several hundred biographies of early residents with pictures and a history of St. George. It is indexed and includes a bibliography.

*Daughters of Utah Pioneers.* The Family History Library has several publications by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers that contain biographical information. These have been taken from the society's monthly lessons. They include local histories, customs, pioneers listings, and biographies of the early settlers of Utah. Listed in the order they were published, they are:

Carter, Kate B. *Heart Throbs of the West.* 12 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1939-1951. (FHL book 979.2 H2cah; computer number 149968.) This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*. These volumes are also included in the *LDS Family History Suite 2*. Although the compact disc has a search function that should find a name within these volumes, it does not seem to check these lists. Go directly to the article and look for your ancestor's name. Volumes 8 to 12 include the lists of immigrants from 1847 to 1851.

Carter, Kate B. *Treasures of Pioneer History.* 6 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1952-1957. (FHL book 979.2 H2ca vols. 1-6; fiche 6101567-72; computer number 149962.) This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*. The complete text is included on the *LDS Family History Suite 2*. It gives names and histories of the immigration from 1852 to 1856.

Carter, Kate B. *Our Pioneer Heritage.* 20 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1958-1977. (FHL book 979.2 H2c; On 134 fiche beginning with 6049775; computer number 143607.) This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*. The complete text is included on the *LDS Family History Suite 2*. This includes histories of various groups arriving in Utah from 1858 to 1874.

Daughters of Utah Pioneers. *Lessons.* 37 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1937-1977. (FHL book 979.2 H2du; computer number 149449.) This is also known as Historical Pamphlet. There is some duplication between this record and the three other records listed above. However, not all the information in these lessons is found in the other volumes. This work includes various lists and histories of 1847 to 1868 immigrants, and the "Brooklyn" Saints who came with Samuel Brannan through San Francisco in 1846. This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

*An Enduring Legacy.* 12 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1978-1990. (FHL book 979.2 H2e; computer number 70966.) Each volume contains an index. This series contains many histories including accounts of coming to Utah.

*Chronicles of Courage.* 8 vols. Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1990-. (FHL book 979.2 H2ch; computer number 592824.) Each volume is individually indexed. The celebration of the sesquicentennial is recounted in this series as well as the centennial of the state of Utah.

The Church Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has biographical sketches, manuscripts, photographs, and church records which contain personal data.

*Guide to the Oral History Program of the Historical Department, 1975.* Salt Lake City: Historical Dept., 1975. (FHL book 929.2 C474o; computer number 356568.) Through an oral history program, personal life stories and insightful recollections were recorded and preserved. Three hundred seventy individuals were interviewed. This guide lists the tapes and transcripts available at the Church Archives. It is indexed by all subjects, the people interviewed, and the person interviewing. One section is devoted to Utah and the biographies of Utahns.

The Harold B. Lee Library, Marriott Library, Merrill Library, and the Utah State Historical Society Library have important collections of oral histories, journals, manuscripts, and printed materials containing biographical information. Many of their catalogs are now on-line. Please refer to the sections, "Archives and

Libraries" and "Societies" for other repositories with biographical material for Utah.

Two guides to biographical sources at the Utah State Historical Society are:

*Oral History Guide, Utah State Historical Society.* Utah: Utah State Historical Society, 1980. (FHL book 979.2258 A3o; computer number 149005.) It is arranged by subjects, such as, labor, Indians, Japanese, and women. A few localities are listed. The guide gives the subject, date, and accessibility.

Utah State Historical Society. *Guide to the Women's History Holdings at the Utah State Historical Society Library.* Salt Lake City: Library, 1985. (FHL book 979.2258 H23u; computer number 404715.) The book is arranged alphabetically and gives references to manuscripts, microfilms, and oral histories.

## CEMETERIES

The Family History Library has records for many Utah cemeteries. Cemetery records often include birth, marriage, and death information. They sometimes provide clues about military service, religion, or membership in an organization. These records are useful in identifying children who died young or women who were not recorded in family or government documents. They are helpful in establishing family relationships and locating family members. For Utah, there are statewide indexes and collections for many cemeteries. Some of these have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

Genealogical society members often copy and publish tombstones inscriptions. The USGenWeb Archives have records from more than 46 Box Elder, Davis, and Washington county cemeteries listed on their Internet site at:

"The Utah Tombstone Transcription Project." In USGenWeb Archives Digital Library [Internet site]. N.p.: USGenWeb Archives, 24 June 1999 [cited 27 October 1999]. Available at [www.rootsweb.com/~cemetery/utah.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~cemetery/utah.html). This is a county-by-county list of scores of cemeteries. The highlighted cemeteries include tombstone abstracts. Abstracted cemeteries are indexed in:

"Search the USGenWeb Archives Digital Library" In USGenWeb Archives Digital Library [Internet site]. N.p.: USGenWeb Archives, 22 September 1997 [cited 27 October 1999]. Available at [www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ussearch.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ussearch.htm). This Internet site indexes cemetery abstracts and other items. Select the state of interest, type the name of the ancestor you seek in the "Query" field, and click

the **Search** button. For best results, use the "Search Tips" and examples at the bottom of the web page. The computer will list any matches it finds and give you the option of viewing the full transcript.

Utah State Historical Society. "Burials Database." In Utah State Historical Society [Internet site]. Salt Lake City: UHS, 1999 [cited 19 October 1999]. Available at <http://history.utah.org/services/lcburials.html>. This searchable database includes about 150 cemeteries scattered throughout Utah. More cemeteries are added periodically for this ongoing project. The standard search is for surname, given name, dates, and places. The results list shows the name of the deceased, birth and death date, and burial place. The long individual display may also include the birthplace, death place, cause of death, relatives, comments, and grave location.

## Indexes and Records

An important collection of cemetery and burial transcripts for more than a hundred cemeteries, excluding Salt Lake City Cemetery, is:

*Cemetery Records and Index of Utah.* 13 vols. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1953. (FHL book 979.2 V3c; On 9 films beginning with 874340; computer number 174717.) The records are listed by cemetery grouped together by county. The counties are not arranged alphabetically or geographically. There is a separate index for each volume. The cemetery listings will give you the name of the deceased, location of the grave, birth date, and the parent or spouse. This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

An alphabetical list of the names of persons buried in the largest cemetery in Utah is:

*Salt Lake City Cemetery Records, 1847-1992.* Orem, Utah: Automated Archives, 1994. (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 168; computer number 412222.) This compact disc lists more than 100,000 burials, many of pioneers. The information on this record includes the name of the deceased, birth date and place, death date and place, including addresses, burial date, and burial location in the cemetery.

The library also has copies of plat books, interment records, registers and other records for the Salt Lake City Cemetery indexed to help locate your ancestors. The records of the dead give name, birth date and place, death date, cause of death, physician, and burial plot. Similar information is also located in the Interment records. After finding the location of burial, you may look at the plat books and see if family members are buried nearby. These records are located under:



Salt Lake City Cemetery, Sexton. *Cemetery Records, 1847-1976*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives, 1976. (On 68 FHL films beginning with 1293881; computer number 107088.)

A book and Internet index for Utah County give the names of all known people buried throughout the county and their birth date, death date, and cemetery. One appendix gives the cemeteries indexed in the book and the Family History Library call numbers. It is:

Parkinson, Diane. *Index to the Utah County Cemeteries*. 2 vols. Provo, Utah: D.R. Parkinson and L. Youngstrom, 1997? (FHL book 979.224 V32p; computer number 819123.)

Utah Valley Regional Family History Center. "Utah County, Utah, Cemetery Index." In Ancestry.com. Orem, Utah: Ancestry, 1998, 1999 [cited 20 October 1999]. Available at <http://www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3169a.htm> This has roughly 80,000 entries from Utah County. Each entry lists (when available) surname, given name(s), birth date, death date, and cemetery location.

## Veteran Burial Records

Although a complete list of veterans buried in Utah does not exist, there are several important collections. Two of the sources for the state are:

*Records of Veterans with Federal Service Buried in Utah, Territorial to 1966*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (On 19 FHL films beginning with 485245; computer number 709603.) The first film in this collection is an index to names from all the counties listing name, war served in, county, city, and cemetery of burial. The rest of the collection is arranged by county, city, and cemetery. The record may give name, rank, organization and branch of military, date of enlistment and discharge, date and place of birth and death, and place of burial.

Utah State Archives and Records Service. *Database-Alpha Listing; Veteran Burials*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Records Service, 1986. (FHL fiche 6331395 [set of 16]; computer number 298473.) This record gives birth and death dates, place of burial, and military service information such as rank, unit, and enlistment and discharge dates. It covers from the 1860s to 1986.

## Directories

Cemetery directories help you find the location of cemeteries. Many cemeteries in Utah have the same name as the city. For larger cities, directories help

identify the cemeteries. One directory of Utah cemeteries is:

*Cemeteries of Utah*. N.p., 1983?. (FHL book 979.2 A1 no. 172; fiche 6018248; computer number 177372.) This directory is arranged into three alphabetical lists, one by cemetery name, and the others by the city and the county.

A county-by-county list of cemetery record transcripts and the book and film numbers to locate them at the Family History Library as of 1988 is:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Family History Library (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Index to United States Cemeteries*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (FHL films 1206468-94; computer number 475648.) Utah is on film 1206491 among other states.

To locate more cemetery indexes and sexton records, use the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - CEMETERIES

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES

## CENSUS

A census is a count and description of the population of a country, territory, state, county, or city. A well-indexed census is one of the easiest ways to locate specific places where your ancestors lived and to identify the dates when they lived there. You can also find family information, particularly in more recent censuses. Use the information with caution, however, since the information may have been given to a census taker by any member of the family or by a neighbor.

### Federal Censuses

Many federal census records are found at the Family History Library, the Utah State Historical Society, and the National Archives. The *United States Research Outline* (30972) provides more detailed information about these records.

**Population schedules (1850–1920).** The library has federal census records for Utah for 1850 (1851), 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920. The 1890 population schedule was destroyed. The 1850 census was actually taken in 1851 but is often referred to as the 1850 census.

**Statewide surname indexes.** These represent every household in the Utah censuses. For most families, they index only the first person listed in each household, who was usually the father or head of the house. Many families had relatives or friends with a different surname

living with them when the census was taken. In those cases, the first person of each surname in the household is included in the index.

Statewide indexes for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses are available in books, on microfiche, or microfilm. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

#### UTAH - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES

There is a Soundex (phonetic) index on microfilm for part of the 1880 census (households with children born between the last half of 1869 and census day in 1880) and all of the 1900 and 1920 censuses. Soundex indexes are found in the catalog with the census they index.

Because the 1880 Soundex only indexes households with children age 10 and under, this complete head of household index for the 1880 census may be more helpful:

*Index to the 1880 Census of Utah.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1970. (FHL films 538587-93; computer number 153956.) This is a card index listing all the families in the Utah 1880 census. All members of the family are listed with relationship, age, place of birth, and parents' places of birth.

*Multi-year census index.* For an index to three Utah census years see:

Kearl, J.R., *Index to the 1850, 1860, & 1870 Censuses of Utah: Heads of Households.* Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1981. (FHL book 979.2 X2k; fiche 6051336; computer number 88813.) This index lists the census year and each head of household's name, age, sex, occupation, household visitation number, city, county, birthplace, real wealth, and personal wealth.

*Multi-state indexes.* Some of the statewide indexes mentioned previously are combined into composite master indexes of several census years, states, and census types:

*FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer.* Version 4.0. Family Tree Maker Archives, index. [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1997. (FHL compact disc no. 9 1997 index; computer number 808500.) This does not circulate to Family History Centers. It is a single composite index to Utah 1850 and 1860 federal censuses and the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 mortality schedules. An Internet edition of this index is also available:

"Internet FamilyFinder" In FamilyTreeMaker.com [Internet site]. [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund

Software, 21 July 1999- [cited 26 October 1999]. Available at [www.familytreemaker.com/allsearch.html](http://www.familytreemaker.com/allsearch.html). You can search the "Internet FamilyFinder" index for free. It displays the census year and state for each name matching the search. It may also list many vital records, and genealogical collection citations. Once you know the census year and state, you must use the original index on compact disc, microfiche, or book to obtain enough data to easily find the name in the original census schedules. Similar index information is also available for a subscription fee at the Internet site: [www.Ancestry.com/census](http://www.Ancestry.com/census). The FamilyFinder Index includes the following Jackson indexes:

Jackson, Ronald Vern. *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records.* Bountiful, Utah: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1984. (This is not cataloged, but it is available on microfiche at many Family History Centers.) Census indexes for 1850 and 1860 are combined together on Search 7. There is a composite index for the mortality schedules of 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 on Search 8.

*When indexes omit a name or are not available* you can still look for the name in the census. For large cities it helps first to learn the person's address by searching the city directory for the same year as the census (see the "Directories" section of this outline). Then look for that address on the original census schedules.

Two reference tools are helpful in locating the Enumeration District for towns in Utah and street address for Salt Lake City. These reference tools help determine which census schedule microfilm and enumeration district to search for specific addresses:

Buckway, G. Eileen. *U. S. 1910 Federal Census: Unindexed States: A Guide to Finding Census Enumeration Districts for Unindexed Cities, Towns, and Villages.* Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1993. (FHL book 973 X2bu 1910; fiche 6101340; computer number 678265.) The book lists Utah towns, their 1910 enumeration district numbers, and their Family History Library microfilm call numbers. It also includes special instructions and information for Salt Lake City, including film numbers of city directories.

*Street Indexes to Unindexed Cities in the U.S. 1910 Federal Census.* Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 1993. (FHL book 973 X23str 1910; fiche 6104151 [set of 5]; computer number 709519.) This book gives the street name and street number for Salt Lake City. It gives the page numbers, enumeration district, and the Family History Library microfilm number for most addresses.



**Mortality schedules (1850–1880).** Mortality schedules list persons who died during the 12 months before the 1850–1880 federal censuses were taken. In addition to providing the same information about the deceased person that census schedules provide for the living, mortality schedules also state the month and cause of death and the number of days ill. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 schedules and the indexes for all four schedules for 1850 to 1880.

**Slave schedules (1860).** The Family History Library also has copies of the 1860 slave schedule. This schedule is combined with the filming of the population schedule listed above. The names of some slaves are included in the 1850 census.

**Veterans schedules (1890).** Films of the 1890 census of Union veterans are available at the Family History Library, Utah State Archives and the National Archives. A published index for this census is:

*1890 Utah Census Index: Special Schedule of the Eleventh Census (1890) Enumerating Union Veterans of the Civil War.* Salt Lake City: Accelerated Indexing Systems, 1983. (FHL book 979.2 X22jv 1890 index; computer number 265843.) This index includes every name of the Union veterans or their widows. It gives the county of residence and page of enumerations.

**Additional federal schedules.** The Church Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have:

- Utah agricultural schedules for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880
- Utah manufacturing schedules for 1860, 1870, and 1880

Many of the additional census schedules are included with the films of the population schedule. Check the Family History Library Catalog under the following subjects in the Locality Search:

UTAH - CENSUS - [YEAR]

## Territorial Censuses

Each time the people of Utah or Deseret applied for statehood a census was taken. The 1856 and 1872 censuses have been located, but the 1872 is not publicly available. Both have varying information ranging from names, ages and birthplaces to only statistics for different counties. There may be other unlocated censuses taken for 1862, 1882, 1887, and 1894 when Utah applied for statehood.

An 1856 territorial census is at the Church Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and at the Family History Library on microfilm. This census includes the names of everyone in the household, but has many duplicate names and inaccuracies. The handwritten census is found in:

*1856 Utah Census Returns.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1981. (FHL film 505913; computer number 103828.)

The library also has indexes for this census. Look at the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search under:

UTAH - CENSUS - 1856 - INDEXES

An 1872 census is at the Church Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is part of the Utah Constitutional Correspondence papers, 1872. The majority of the census gives the number in each household but no surnames or given names. The census is arranged by county and then city. For Rich and Kane counties, there is a list of every person living in the county. The Rich county census also gives age, residence, and birth place, some include the city of birth. For Utah County, some of the cities list the head of household and the number of individuals in the household.

Census records and mortality schedules and indexes are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - CENSUS - [YEAR]

## CHURCH RECORDS

Many churches keep records of baptisms, christenings, confirmations, marriages, burials, memberships, admissions, and removals. Some keep minutes of church meetings and the histories of their local churches. Each church has its own policies for record keeping.

Church records are important for family research because civil authorities in Utah did not begin registering vital statistics until after 1895. Church records may include names and dates and places of births, marriages, and deaths. The records are usually recorded at the time of the event and should be accurate for the specific event.

Before 1900, the largest religious groups in Utah were The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches. You must determine the denomination of an ancestor to find their records.

## The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been the predominant religion in Utah since the pioneers arrived in 1847. For more complete information about the Church's records, see *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080).

To locate records of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints it helps to use an index. The *LDS Family History Suite 2* and the *Early Church Information File* (both cited fully in the "Biography" section of this outline) are two important indexes used to find Church members and other people of Utah.

A source that describes events in Church history from 1805 to 1913 is Andrew Jenson's *Church Chronology: A Record of Important Events Pertaining to The History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* mentioned in the "History" section of the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080). The following are a few general sources and histories for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Most of the sources are indexed in *The Pioneer Heritage CD-ROM*, *LDS Family History Suite*, and the *Early Church Information File*. Some of the complete text is also computerized on the compact disks.

Jenson, Andrew. *Encyclopedic History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*. Salt Lake City: Deseret News Publishing, 1941. (FHL book 289.309 J453e; film 496776; fiche 6053258; Index on film 928073 item 8; fiche 6051304; computer number 123456.) This encyclopedia contains histories of Church wards and branches. The history describes when the ward was organized and if it was created from a different ward. You will be able to determine where the membership records would be found. Leaders of the area are also listed. This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Historical Department. *Journal History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*. Salt Lake City: Historical Department; 1969, 1973. (FHL films 12597299-795; computer number 13499.) This does not circulate to Family History Centers. This collection includes newspaper clippings and extracts from journals, letters, histories, biographies, rosters, and manuscript material. Daily events are arranged chronologically. The complete set is available in the Church History Library and Church Archives. The sets at the Harold B. Lee Library, and the Utah Historical Society Library are not as current. The index to the *Journal History* is cataloged separately:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Historical Department. *Index to Journal History*. Salt Lake

City: Historical Department, 1973. (On 58 FHL films beginning with 1233503; computer number 13511.) This does not circulate to Family History Centers. This index contains an alphabetical listing of individual names, places, events, and subjects. Each entry gives the date and page where the entry is found in the *Journal History* films.

Many other Church records have been microfilmed and are available at the Family History Library and the Church Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Membership records help you find birth, marriage, death, and baptism information. The records begin around the 1840s. The Family History Library has records up to 1948 and a few up to 1977. The Church Archives has the records from the beginning to about 1981. Use the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) and the Family History Library Catalog to help locate the call numbers.

A register listing available records and the Family History Library call numbers for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is:

Jaussi, Laureen R. and Gloria Chaston. *Register of Genealogical Society Call Numbers*. 2 vols. Provo, Utah: Genealogy Tree, 1982. (FHL book 979.2258 A3j; fiche 6031507; computer number 135805.) These volumes contain many references to Church and temple records with their call numbers.

## Other Major Denominations

Most of Utah's other major denominations were well established by the 1870s and 1880s. There are some records and histories available at the Family History Library and at the Utah State Archives. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located.

### Roman Catholic

Pastoral Center  
Diocese of Salt Lake City  
27 C Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84103-2397  
Telephone: 801-328-8641  
Fax: 801-328-9680

The Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City has records from the early 1870s to the present for all of Utah. The early records are incomplete. Each congregation presently keeps its records for a few years before sending them to the Pastoral Center. A history of the Catholic Church in Utah is:

Mooney, Bernice Maher. *Salt of the Earth: The History of the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, 1776-1987*.



Salt Lake City: Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, 1987. (FHL book 979.2258 K2m; computer number 473893.) This gives a history of the church for most of Utah. It includes photographs and an index. It gives a historical account and information of church officials, when church buildings were erected, and a list of reverends and their dates of service.

The directory of the diocese covers many parts of Utah in addition to Salt Lake City.

Catholic Church, Diocese of Salt Lake City. *The Official Directory of the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City*. [Salt Lake City?: The Diocese?], 1988. (FHL book 979.2 K24c; computer number 480435.) The book has a list of parishes with addresses and maps for Salt Lake City showing the 1988 boundaries. It includes a list of clergy, deacons and their wives, and sisters.

## Episcopal

Episcopal Diocese of Utah  
80 South 300 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Telephone: 801-322-4131

Each parish maintains its own records. The diocese has records for some discontinued parishes. The Marriott Library of the University of Utah has a collection of their records. The Family History Library has a few records including the following:

Episcopal Church, Diocese of Utah. *Episcopal Register of the Bishop of Utah (Bishop's Personal Register) 1899-1946, 1951-1967*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975. (FHL film 908728; computer number 52694.) This record has baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials. It covers all of Utah and some areas of eastern Nevada.

## Methodist

Illiff School of Theology  
Ira J. Taylor Library Archives  
2201 South University Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80210  
Telephone: 303-744-1287  
Fax: 303-744-3387

United Methodist Church  
Rocky Mountain  
2800 S. University Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80710  
Telephone: 303-733-3736  
Fax: 303-733-1730

The Methodist church was organized in Salt Lake City, Utah on August 8, 1872. The history is found in the following:

Merkel, Henry Martin. *History of Methodism in Utah*. Colorado Springs, Colo.: Dentan Printing, 1938. (FHL book 979.2 K2m; computer number 728510.) This book has a bibliography and a list of pastors.

Each congregation maintains its own records. The Ira J. Taylor Archives has the records for some of the discontinued congregations of Utah. Staff there can also help you locate existing congregations.

## Presbyterian

Presbytery of Utah  
342 West 200 South, Suite 30  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
Telephone: 801-539-8446

Each Presbyterian congregation maintains its own records. The Presbytery of Utah can help you locate current congregations and will provide suggestions for finding records of discontinued congregations. The Westminster College has a collection of Utah Presbyterian records. Their address is:

Westminster College Library  
1840 South 1300 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105  
Telephone: 801-484-7651

A historical society for Presbyterian churches maintains records of discontinued congregations and some current congregations. Their address is:

The Presbyterian Historical Society  
425 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147-1516  
Telephone: 215-627-1852

The Family History Library has a history of the Presbyterian Church:

Murray, Andrew E. *The Skyline Synod: Presbyterianism in Colorado and Utah*. Denver, Colo.: Golden Bell Press, 1971. (FHL book 978.8 K2m; computer number 248496.) It is indexed by the name of the church. It is a historical account of the church with a list of officials. There are some pictures of church buildings and reverends.

The library also has a few church records, such as:

Presbyterian Church (Corinne, Utah). *Church Records 1870 to 1897*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (FHL film 906168; computer number

203857.) This record includes minutes, baptisms, congregational records, registers of elders, deacons, and church records.

## Lutheran

Rocky Mountain District, LCMS  
7000 N. Broadway St. Suite 401  
Denver, CO 80221-2907  
Telephone: 303-427-7553  
Fax: 303-426-5603

Each congregation maintains its own records. The Rocky Mountain District office can help you locate current congregations and provide suggestions for finding the records of discontinued congregations.

## Others

To locate records for other churches, contact the existing congregations in Utah. The Utah State Historical Society and the Marriott Library of the University of Utah have church record collections. For information about national and regional repositories see the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

The following guide can also help you learn about church records in Utah:

Historical Records Survey. *Inventory of the Church Archives of Utah*. 3 vols. Salt Lake City: Utah Historical Records Survey, 1940. (FHL book 979.2 K2h; fiche 6046577; computer number 150706.) This was prepared to be a complete inventory of the records of churches. It contains a history of religion in Utah and has a list of books arranged by the name of the denomination. It also contains an inventory for the various religions.

To locate church records or information the library has for any denomination, check the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

UTAH - CHURCH RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - CHURCH RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH RECORDS  
UTAH - CHURCH HISTORY  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - CHURCH HISTORY  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH HISTORY

## COURT RECORDS

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Many of your ancestors will be found in court records perhaps as defendants, plaintiffs, witnesses, or jurors. They may have participated in cases involving probate, naturalization, divorce, debt, adoption, guardianship,

licenses, appointment to public offices, taxes, civil and criminal lawsuits, property disputes, crimes, or other matters brought before a court. Court records can establish family relationships and places of residence. They often provide occupations, descriptions of individuals, and other family history information.

Utah's court system has been influenced by four governmental eras: ecclesiastical, provisional, territorial, and state. The following information will help you understand more about each era and its judicial court system. This section also describes records of the federal courts since statehood in 1896 and court information found in county government records.

### Ecclesiastical (1847-1849)

Before the provisional government was organized, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints provided the only government structure. Although this era officially ended in 1849, civil and criminal cases were handled in Church courts until about 1890, and until 1910 in some Utah communities.

Church court records are interfiled in Church records at the Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. See the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) for information about their Church records.

A legal history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1830-1900 is:

Firmage, Edwin Brown and Richard C. Mangrum. *Zion in the Courts*. Urbana Ill.: University of Illinois Press, 1988. (FHL book 289.309 F516z; computer number 482827.) This book covers the time period when Church and civil courts overlapped. It is indexed and includes a bibliography.

### Provisional Government of the State of Deseret (1849-1850)

The provisional government was created to provide a temporary civil government. Under this government the Utah Supreme Court and justice of the peace and county courts were created in January 1850. Alderman, municipal, and probate courts were created in January 1851. Because of communication delays between Washington, D.C. and Salt Lake City, the provisional government continued to function for nearly a year after the Organic Act created the Territory of Utah in 1850. With the exception of a few scattered documents, the judicial court records for the provisional government have not been located.



## Territory of Utah (1850–1896)

When the territory was created in 1850, the Utah Supreme Court, federal district courts, county probate courts, and justice of the peace courts were established. They began functioning 22 September 1851.

This was an era of conflict between Mormon settlers and federal officials. Mormons tended to continue using the Church courts and local probate courts. Many polygamy cases of the 1870s and 1880s were drawn into the federal district courts.

- **Supreme court.** The Utah Supreme Court had jurisdiction over extraordinary writs and appeals from federal district courts. The Utah State Archives has the supreme court records. The Family History Library has:

*State Department Territorial Papers, Utah Series.* National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0012. Washington D.C.: National Archives, 19--? (FHL film 491567; computer number 112558.) These papers cover 1853 to 1873. This collection contains a few supreme court records that were sent to Washington, D.C.

- **Federal district courts.** In 1850, the Utah Territory was divided into three judicial districts. Each county was assigned to a district. A fourth district was added in 1892. Judges held court on a rotating basis in the counties. The federal district courts had jurisdiction over criminal, civil, and common law cases, including chancery, mining claim controversies, naturalization, estate settlement, guardianship, adoption, divorce, and polygamy laws.

The following record covers the courts in Salt Lake City, Ogden, Provo, and Beaver. The record has many polygamy cases and various other crimes.

United States District Court (Utah). *Case Files of the U.S. District Courts for the Territory of Utah 1870–1896.* National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1401. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1985. (FHL films 1616325–62; computer number 535800.) These records are indexed by defendant and plaintiff on the first film. The index lists the individual's name, the case file number and the microfilm roll number. The cases were rearranged alphabetically by the initial letter of the defendant's last name then renumbered and are not chronological.

The responsibilities of the federal district courts were transferred in 1896 to the state district courts.

- **Probate courts.** The territorial probate courts were created in 1850 and were allowed to cover more than probate cases, such as naturalizations, adoptions, and divorces. They were given concurrent jurisdiction with the federal district courts in 1852. Appeals were sent to the federal district courts. The Poland Act of 1874 confined the courts' jurisdiction to matters pertaining to estates, guardianships, and divorce. The Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887 revoked their jurisdiction over divorce cases. The probate courts were abolished in 1896.

Many of the records were sent to the county clerk. However, some early probate judges kept their records in their homes or offices. You may find a few of these personal collections at major Utah archives and libraries. Most are arranged by date and are not indexed.

One example is a journal of Elias Smith, a probate judge for Salt Lake County between 1852 and 1882. In his journals he wrote about the court cases where he ruled and marriages performed. It is not indexed.

*Journal of Elias Smith of Salt Lake City, Utah.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1949. (FHL films 00424–25; computer number 386505.)

- **Justice of the peace courts.** Justices of the peace performed marriages and had limited jurisdiction for civil and criminal cases and small claims. Appeals were made to the probate courts until 1874 and to the federal district courts after that date. A justice of the peace could have served a county, precinct, city, or town. The territorial records overlap with the state justice of peace records described below. Many of the records have been destroyed or are difficult to locate. You may check with the court for the records. If they are not available at the court, the records could be with the personal papers of the justice of the peace. These may be found in libraries, family possession, or museums.

## State of Utah (1896–present)

When Utah became a state in 1896, its judicial system included a supreme court, state district courts, and justice of the peace courts.

- **Utah Supreme Court (1896–present).** The Utah Supreme Court is the highest state court. It has original jurisdiction over questions from federal courts. It hears appeals from the district courts, state agencies, and in some cases the court of appeals. Records are kept by the clerk of the supreme court. Some supreme court records have been sent to the Utah State Archives.

- **State district courts (1896–present).** In 1896, the state was divided into seven state court districts. Through the years, the district boundaries changed several times, and in 1988, eight districts were created. Branch offices for these courts are located in each county. State district courts have jurisdiction in all criminal felonies and civil actions. Domestic relations cases such as divorces, separations, child custody cases, adoptions, name changes, and will and estate settlements are handled by these courts. Also, naturalizations are handled through the district courts.

The Family History Library has some records for the district courts. These includes the minutes for Uintah County for both probate court and district court. These are poorly indexed and arranged only by dates. They are:

Utah, District Court. (Uintah County). *Minutes of the Probate Court and of the District Court, 1887-1915*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 481111 item 3; computer number 481099.) The minutes include a wide variety of information. Most of the entries deal with wills, estates, and custody. One example from the minutes is a decision giving permission for a child to go to the Deaf and Dumb School for children with disabilities.

- **Justices of the peace (1896–present).** There are two classes of justices of the peace in Utah: county justices who serve in county divisions called precincts, and municipal justices who serve in cities or towns. Justices of the peace may perform marriages and have jurisdiction in misdemeanors and civil cases of less than \$1,000. Appeals are sent to the circuit courts.

Justices of the peace maintain their own records. These may be kept at the county courthouse or the justice's home or office. By law, justices of the peace are required to give their records to their successors. An effective way to locate justice of the peace records is to contact the county clerk. The records of marriages performed by justices of the peace are in the county clerk's office.

### Federal Court Records (1896–present)

The state of Utah is served by the United States District Court of the District of Utah, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals (changed to the Tenth in 1929), and the Supreme Court of the United States. To learn more about federal court records see the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

**The United States District Court of the District of Utah.** This federal court hears civil and criminal cases involving citizens of different states, interstate

controversies, violations of federal statutes, immigration and naturalization matters, some civil and criminal cases where both parties have agreed to use the federal court system, and other matters.

Early records of the district court were sent to the National Archives—Denver Branch. Recent records are at the Central Division Office which also has the docket books from the 1920s to the present plus naturalization records.

Original court records are usually found at the county clerk's or court recorder's office. Check the Internet at [www.courtlink.utcourts.gov](http://www.courtlink.utcourts.gov) for the current addresses and jurisdictions of courts. City directories also give addresses and phone numbers for the courts. Many records have been sent to the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library has copies of some records. Court records available in the library are listed in the catalog under varying topics. Many times the records from the different types of courts are kept together and overlap time periods. Most records will be found under each topic they cover. They may be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - COURT RECORDS

UTAH, [COUNTY] - COURT RECORDS

UTAH, [COUNTY] - PUBLIC RECORDS

UTAH, [COUNTY] - DIVORCE RECORDS

UTAH, [COUNTY] - GUARDIANSHIP

## DIRECTORIES

Directories are alphabetical lists of names and addresses. These often list all the adult residents of a city or an area. They are similar to modern telephone books. Besides addresses and occupations, they may also give locations of streets and voting districts which will help you locate other records.

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in Utah. Some directories cover several cities. Listed below are some of the major ones for Salt Lake City and surrounding areas.

*Salt Lake City (Utah) City Directories.* Woodbridge, Conn.: Research Publications, 1980–1984. (On 24 FHL films beginning with 1377409; computer number 660377.) This is a complete series covering Salt Lake City, Ogden, Provo, Logan, and Springville. This contains early directories from 1867 to the 1890s for these larger cities and towns, then to 1935 for Salt Lake City. Some of the original directories have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

*Salt Lake City Directory for the Year 1873: Embracing a General List of Residents, and a Business Directory; and Also General Information of Value to the Citizens*



of Salt Lake City, and Business Men in General: Together with an Appendix, Full of Interesting and Instructive Matter, Regarding the Social, Political and Religious Affairs in Utah Territory. Salt Lake City: Hannahs, 1873. (FHL book 979.2258 E4h; film 940049; computer number 382089.)

*Salt Lake City Directory for 1889: Containing a Description of the City and its Attractions, Public Buildings, Churches, Schools, Libraries, Banks, Resorts, Amusements, etc. with a Full List of Government Territorial, County, and Municipal Officers, a Complete Business Directory and Guide to Public Streets and Avenues.* N.p.: Kelly & Co., 1889. (FHL book 979.225 E4k 1889; film 940049 item 2; computer number 382103.) This has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

To locate all other directories for Utah cities look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - DIRECTORIES  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - DIRECTORIES  
UTAH - DIRECTORIES

Good collections are also found at the Salt Lake Public Library, the Utah State Historical Society, the Marriott Library of the University of Utah, and other university and public libraries.

## **DIVORCE RECORDS**

Divorce records contain data on family members, their marital history, their property, and residences. Information on children may be listed including birth date and places. Most records are kept on a county level.

The earliest divorces were granted by church leaders. A few records of divorce or sealing cancellation may be found inserted in temple sealing records near the location where the original sealing was recorded. For more information about sealing records see *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080).

From 1847 to 1877 there were over two thousand divorces. During the territorial period, the federal district courts had jurisdiction for divorce cases from 1852 to 1895. The probate courts also had jurisdiction from 1852 to 1887. Some pre-statehood records may be found in records of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After 1896, jurisdiction for divorce was given to the state district courts.

Some territorial divorce records have been indexed on a compact disc that contains birth, marriage, guardianship, and naturalization information; divorce records; and

wills. This source is cited under Territorial Records in the "Vital Records" section of this outline.

The divorce records for 1852–1969 for Salt Lake City Third District Court can be obtained through the Utah State Archives. See their Internet site or call them for further information. The Family History Library has many records from the probate courts and a few from different courts. Other divorce records are available through individual courts. After 1978, certified copies are available through the Vital Records Department. See the address for the Bureau of Vital Records in the "Vital Records" section of this outline.

The divorce decrees are usually mixed with other court records, though some may have been kept separately. Some of the records are not indexed and will need to be searched chronologically. An example of a separate record is:

Utah. Probate Court (Salt Lake County) *Divorce Records, 1852–1856, 1877–1887*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 431227; computer number 74310.) This record is unindexed and is in chronological order. It gives names of each spouse and reason for separation or divorce, and date of court action.

An example of a record mixed with different types of court actions is found in Millard County.

Utah. District Court (Millard County) Probate Division. *Probate Court Records, 1870–1910*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 482034; computer number 731256.) This film includes divorce, incorporation and dis-incorporation information, minutes, and estate information.

To locate other records, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - DIVORCE RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - VITAL RECORDS

## **EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION**

The "Emigration and Immigration" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) lists several important sources for finding information about immigrants. The *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) introduces the principles, search strategies, and additional record types you can use to identify an immigrant ancestor's hometown.

Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were the pioneer settlers of Utah and have always accounted for a high percentage of the population. The first wagon train of Mormon pioneers entered the Salt

Lake valley in July 1847. By the time the railroad reached Utah in 1869, more than 69,000 Mormons had made the trek across the Great Plains.

Early pioneers came primarily from the New England, mid-Atlantic, and Midwestern states as well as from Canada and Great Britain. The population of the early settlements grew because of missionary work overseas. British converts formed the largest foreign-born immigrant group followed by the Scandinavians. Significant numbers also came from France, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands.

Other groups came from such diverse areas as Australia, South Africa, the Pacific Islands, and the Near East. A few African-Americans were among the earliest arrivals in Salt Lake.

People not belonging to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints migrated to Utah from all parts of the United States and from other countries. The California Gold Rush and the western movement brought new settlers. Jewish merchants established businesses. United States military personnel arrived in the 1850s and 1860s. Some chose to stay when their service ended.

## Emigration and Immigration Records

Since most of the immigrants were members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, check the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080). There is an extensive list of emigration and immigration records and indexes.

One major index of Utah immigrants is:

*Utah Immigration Card Index, 1847–1868*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1963. (FHL films 298440–42; computer number 368250.) This is also known as the “Crossing the Plains Index.” This is an incomplete but valuable list of the pioneers who crossed the plains before the railroad reached Utah in 1869. It is arranged alphabetically by head of the family. Most of the information has been taken from the *Journal History of the Church*. See the “Church Records” section for more information.

Histories of some of the groups who traveled together to Utah have been published. During the 1997 sesquicentennial celebration of the arrival of the pioneers, many new materials were published. Many list the names of those who immigrated. Check the Family History Library Catalog for new histories. The Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is creating a computer index. The new index should be more comprehensive.

A number of serial publications by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers include lists of the names of pre-1869 immigrants, names of those who died along the trail, accounts of the journey, and other pioneer information. Many of these were published for the centennial of the group’s year of immigration. There is some duplication in these publications and they are listed in order of publication dates. The sources *Heart Throbs of the West*, *Treasures of Pioneer History*, *Our Pioneer Heritage*, *Lessons*, *An Enduring Legacy*, and *Chronicles of Courage* are cited in the “Biography” section of this outline.

## Passenger Arrival Records

Many of the Mormon immigrants leaving Europe and Great Britain came on chartered ships from Liverpool, England. Between 1840 and 1854, New Orleans was the major port of arrival for Mormon immigrant ships. Between 1855 and 1890, most of the ships arrived in New York, Philadelphia, or Boston. Suggestions for help in locating your immigrant ancestor can be found in the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080).

## Records of Other Immigrant Groups

Histories of various immigrant groups to Utah identify a few of the individuals who settled here. There was no port of entry common to the non-LDS overseas immigrants. The Family History Library and the National Archives have passenger lists for the east coast and some west coast ports between 1820 and about 1920. See the *United States Research Outline* (30972) and *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) for these passenger lists. See the “Minorities” section of this outline for further information about other immigrant groups.

## GAZETTEERS

A gazetteer is a list and description of places, such as villages, towns and cities. Gazetteers may also mention neighborhoods, cemeteries, population size, and geographical features such as rivers and mountains. It can be used to locate the places where a family lived. They usually include only the names of places that existed at the time the gazetteer was published. The place names are generally listed in alphabetical order. Maps and atlases can also help locate places. See also the “Maps” section in this outline. Several guides to places in Utah are available, including:

Carr, Stephen L. *The Historical Guide to Utah Ghost Towns*. Salt Lake City: Western Epics, 1972. (FHL book 979.2 H2cr; computer number 20108.) This book has a history of the towns no longer in existence in Utah. It gives the approximate dates each town was settled and deserted.



Gallagher, John S. *The Post Offices of Utah*.

Burtonsville, Md.: The Depot, 1977. (FHL book 979.2 E8g; computer number 222703.) This source is a list of past and current post offices in Utah. It provides the dates of establishment for each post office. If a post office was discontinued, this source gives the date and the new post office designated to receive the mail. Several photographs are included.

Leigh, Rufus Wood. *Five Hundred Utah Place Names*.

Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press, 1961. (FHL book 979.2 E2L; computer number 72907.) This book provides the history and origin of the name of each place, including names of places and landmarks that no longer exist. It also includes American Indians' residences.

*Origins of Utah Place Names*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Department of Public Instruction, 1941. (FHL book 979.2 E2o; fiche 6046696; computer number 214068.)

This source documents when places were settled, former names, altitude and population in 1941. There is information on the creation of each county and boundary changes, including square miles. It also includes a list of extinct counties.

*Utah State Gazetteer and Business Directory*. 12 vols.

Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk, 1900–1931. (FHL book 979.2 U34p; On 6 films beginning with 1697782 item 3; computer number 34326.) This book contains an exhaustive listing of towns and cities from all parts of the state.

Van Cott, John W. *Utah Place Names: a Compilation: a Comprehensive Guide to the Origins of Utah Place Names*. Salt Lake City: Univ. of Utah Press, 1990. (FHL book 979.2 E2v; computer number 575203.)

This is the best guide to Utah place names.

Writers' Program (Utah). *Utah: A Guide to the State*.

New York: Hastings House, 1941. (FHL book 979.2 E6w; film 1033881 item 3; computer number 46204.)

This gives a history of many areas and includes an index and maps of some cities. The book is arranged geographically and gives directions and mileage between areas. There is also information on altitude, population size, and roads.

Additional listings may be found in Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - GAZETTEERS

UTAH - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL

## GENEALOGY

The term *genealogy* is used to describe a variety of records containing family information previously

gathered by other researchers, societies, or archives. These records can include pedigree charts, compiled data on families, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These sources can save time, but because they are compiled from other sources, they must be carefully evaluated for accuracy.

## Nationwide Indexes

You will find information about some of your ancestors in the following important nationwide genealogical indexes described in the *United States Research Outline* (30972), in the sections indicated.

- *Ancestral File* "Genealogy" section. Also available on the FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service.
- *FamilyFinder Index* "Census" section. Also on the Internet at [www.familytreemaker.com/allsearch.html](http://www.familytreemaker.com/allsearch.html).
- Family History Library Catalog Surname Search "Introduction" and "Genealogy" sections. Also available on the FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service.
- *International Genealogical Index* "Genealogy" section. Also partially available on the FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service.
- *Index to National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC)* "Genealogy" section. Also on Internet at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/nucmc.html>.
- *Old Surname Index File* "Genealogy" section.
- *Pedigree Resource File* consists of unedited, lineage-linked pedigrees submitted over the Internet to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints since 1999. It also includes the associated family groups, descendant charts, and sometimes notes or sources. It is available for purchase at the Family History Library for use on personal computers.
- *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* "Periodicals" section. Also available on the Internet at [www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165.htm](http://www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165.htm) for a subscription fee.
- *Social Security Death Index* "Vital Records" section. This index is also available on the Internet at <http://ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com>, or on compact disc from several companies. The Internet version sometimes includes a few more recently reported deaths than compact disc versions. For details about

the FamilySearch compact disc version see *U.S. Social Security Death Index Resource Guide* (34446).

- *U.S. Military Death Index*. This index lists deaths of service men and women in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. It is available at most Family History Centers as part of FamilySearch. For details see the *Military Index Resource Guide* (34540).

These indexes are available at the Family History Library and many libraries with family history collections.

## Web Sites about Your Family

Search the Internet for family history web sites about your surname. To find such sites use the "Search for Ancestors" feature of the FamilySearch™ Internet Genealogy Service at [www.familysearch.com/default.asp](http://www.familysearch.com/default.asp).

## Statewide Collections and Publications

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. Usually, the records must be searched in person.

The library has several collections of family group sheets, pedigree charts, and other information submitted by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These collections include many Utah families. See the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) for more information.

## Manuscript Collections and Special Files

Some of the major collections available through the Family History Library are:

Bennett, Archibald F. *Family Genealogical Records Alphabetically Arranged*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1967. (On 19 FHL films beginning with 476963; computer number 154941.) It contains correspondence, genealogies, pedigree charts, and family group records for some Utah families. The catalog lists all surnames on each film.

*Cummings Collection of Genealogical Questionnaires Relating to Utah Families*. [Salt Lake City]: B. F. Cummings II, 19--? (FHL book Q979.2 D2c; film 1592751 item 4; computer number 572182.) This source contains genealogical data sheets on 172 Utah families collected before Cumunings' death in 1918. The information has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File* with its former call number of MS 1332.

*Research Notes by Benjamin F. Cummings, Jr. on the Ancestry of Some Early Utah Families*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1954. (FHL films 25703--6; computer number 156152.) These films are of his research files. They include completed typed genealogies, a few questionnaires, the author's research notes, documents and letters, and a book with many short genealogies regarding Utah families. The notebooks are not confined to one family, so a careful search of the collection is required.

## Published Materials

Many pedigrees of Utah families have been published in the *Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine* mentioned in the "Periodicals" section of this outline. The genealogies are published throughout the magazines and many times continued into the next volume. These magazines have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

The library also has family histories of many Utah families which can be found by using the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog. Typing the word *Utah* in the Keyword Search will limit the search to families in Utah. You also can find genealogies for Utah in the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search under:

UTAH - GENEALOGY  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY

## HISTORY

Effective family research requires an understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns.

The following events affected Utah's political boundaries, record-keeping practices, and settlement patterns.

1776	Spanish explorers Dominquez and Escalante visited the Utah area.
1820--1840	Fur trappers, including Jedediah Smith and Jim Bridger, worked in the area and held rendezvous in Utah. They also built some forts.



1822–1848	The area known as Utah was part of Mexico until the end of the Mexican War. At the end of the Mexican War, the region that included present-day Utah and parts of several surrounding states became part of the United States.
1846	The Donner-Reed party blazed a trail through the Utah mountains into the Salt Lake Valley. This was the same trail later used by Brigham Young.
1847	Brigham Young led the first wagon train of Mormon pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley. These were the first white settlers in Utah.
1847–1869	About 69,000 Mormons crossed the plains into Utah by wagon or handcart before the coming of the railroad.
1847–1857	Mormon settlers founded approximately 100 towns in present-day Utah, Nevada, Idaho, California, and Wyoming.
1849	The Mormons organized the Provisional State of Deseret which provided the Mormons with a constitution and a system of government until Utah became a territory in 1850. The State of Deseret included parts of present-day California, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.
1850	The Utah Territory was organized to include parts of what are now Nevada, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah.
1856–1860	Approximately 3,000 immigrants came to Utah with the handcart companies.
1857–1858	President James Buchanan ordered United States Troops to the Utah Territory to challenge an alleged Mormon rebellion. Brigham Young recalled settlers from outlying communities. The crisis was settled peacefully and, in June 1858, federal troops established Camp Floyd 40 miles southwest of Salt Lake City.
1858–1868	Another wave of Mormon settlement saw communities established in Utah and what is now southern Idaho, southeastern Nevada, and northern Arizona.
1861	The territory of Utah was reduced by the creation of the territories of Nevada and Colorado.

1862–1865	Fort Douglas was established in 1862 when 750 volunteer soldiers came from California during the Civil War.
1862	The first of a series of federal laws was passed to discourage the practice of polygamy. The first was the Morrill Act which defined plural marriage as bigamy and declared it a crime.
1863	Mining began in earnest. Recurrent mineral discoveries brought prospectors to Utah throughout the latter part of the 1800s and into the 20th century. Mining attracted minority communities to Utah.
1865–1868	Approximately 100 settlers and an unknown number of American Indians were killed during the Black Hawk Indian War. Attacks primarily occurred in the Sanpete and Sevier valleys, causing the temporary abandonment of a number of settlements.
1868	The territory of Utah was reduced by the creation of the territory of Wyoming.
1869	The first transcontinental railroad was completed at Promontory Point near Brigham City, bringing an influx of new settlers to Utah, including Chinese.
1870s	Mormon settlers established additional communities in the adjacent states of Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Colorado, and Arizona. The coal mining industry that began in the 1870s and steadily increased until the 1920s attracted thousands of new immigrants to eastern Utah.
1874	A second anti-polygamy bill, the Poland Act, was passed, limiting the jurisdiction of probate courts, thus forcing members of the Church to be tried in federal courts including those being tried for polygamy and those seeking divorce.
1887	<p>The most far-reaching act, the Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887, was passed to stop the practice of polygamy. This act had a tremendous impact on the people of Utah and their record-keeping practices. This act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abolished women's suffrage.</li> <li>• Authorized the administering of an oath of obedience to anti-polygamy laws for all prospective voters, jury members, and office holders.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disbanded the Perpetual Emigration Fund Company.</li> <li>• Eliminated some civil rights to more harshly prosecute polygamy laws through the court systems.</li> <li>• Gave the federal government control over territorial schools, probate courts, and the Utah Militia.</li> <li>• Required that all marriages be publicly recorded.</li> <li>• Disincorporated The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.</li> </ul>
1880–1890s	Mormons, primarily from Utah, Idaho and Arizona, established communities in Sonora and Chihuahua, Mexico and in Alberta, Canada.
1890	Wilford Woodruff, President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, gave a proclamation that became known as the Manifesto. This advised Latter-day Saints “to refrain from contracting any marriage forbidden by the laws of the land.”
1896	Utah was admitted as the 45th state. At this time the probate courts were abolished and the responsibilities of the federal district courts were transferred to state district courts.
1941–1945	70,000 Utahns enlisted to serve in World War II. Over 3,600 died and 2,800 were wounded.
1942	As part of World War II, Topaz concentration camp for relocating Japanese Americans started first large Japanese community in Utah.

## State Histories

The Historical Society, universities, and public libraries often have good collections of local histories. Some Utah history sources are:

Alter, J. Cecil. *Utah, the Storied Domain*. 3 vols. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1932. (FHL book 979.2 H2a; film 1000613; computer number 54283.) This three-volume set has good detail from the Indians to the industrialists of 1932. Volumes two and three have biographical sketches of prominent men and some women. It is indexed.

May, Dean L. *Utah, A People's History*. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1987. (FHL book 979.2 H2md; computer number 488145.) This is a one

volume comprehensive history of the state. It is indexed and has a good bibliographical section.

*Utah, A Centennial History*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1949. (FHL book 979.2 H2s; computer number 147274.) This includes a brief history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Milton R. Hunter and a good section on Utah history. Volume three contains personal and family records.

The records on compact disc mentioned in the “Church Records” section include several histories of Utah. Check these indexes for more information.

## Local Histories

County and town histories often include biographical sketches of local residents or mention military units in which they served. This may be one of the best sources of information for some families. During the centennial celebration of statehood, each Utah county was to produce a history of their county. Many of these have been published recently. Some of the county centennial histories, *The Utah Historical Quarterly*, *Beehive History*, and the *Utah History Blazer* have been issued in:

Utah State Historical Society. *The Utah Centennial History Suite*. [Salt Lake City]: Utah State Historical Society, 1998. (FHL compact disc no. 109; computer number 828922.) This compact disc has photographs and maps as well as 18,000 names of people and places. It also has a word-search capability.

You can locate these and other local histories in the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search under:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - HISTORY  
UTAH - HISTORY

## LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records are primarily used to learn when and where an individual lived. They often reveal other family information, such as the name of a spouse, heir, other relatives, or neighbors. Also, you may learn where a person lived previously, his or her occupation, if he or she was a naturalized citizen, and other clues for further research.

### The Pioneer Era (1847–1869)

In 1847, the area that was to become Utah belonged to Mexico. A year later it was ceded to the United States by treaty, but it was not until 1869 that a land office was

established. This permitted "legal" ownership of public lands in Utah.

Instead of federal authority during this period, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints administered the distribution of land. The land was not sold but was allotted to the first owners based on needs. After 1850, title could be obtained from either the Church or the county recorder's office.

After the initial distribution of land the county recorder or the probate clerk primarily recorded subsequent transfers. A few transactions were recorded in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints records. Sometimes land was transferred without recording it with any church or government office.

Maps listing the names of landholders show where an ancestor lived. The library has a few plat maps. Examples are:

Morgan, Nicholas G., *Pioneer Map: Great Salt Lake City, Great Basin, North America*. N.p. 1851? (FHL map 979.225 E7man; fiche 6051237; computer number 104190.) This map includes historical data and index to names of original owners and their locations by lot or lots and blocks. The index to this map consists of names of major land owners in various Salt Lake City LDS wards:

Grundvig, David L. and Sharon Lauritzen. *Index to Pioneer Map, Great Salt Lake City, for 1850s*. N.p. 1981. (FHL book 979.225 E7man index; computer number 254947.)

*Pioneer Map: City of St. George, Washington County, Utah*. N.p. 1982? (FHL map 979.248/S1 E7p; computer number 178360.) This map lists the names of land owners on the map and the designation of the ward where they lived. The index to this map has St. George wards listed in the following:

Hardesty, Patricia N. *Pioneer Map, City of St. George, Washington County, Utah Index with LDS Wards*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1982. (FHL book 979.248/S1 E7p index, fiche 6031575, computer number 178413.)

Pioneer land settlement in Utah is discussed in many articles and histories. Two are:

Fox, Feramorz Young. *The Mormon Land System, A Study of the Settlement and Utilization of Land Under the Direction of the Mormon Church*. Logan, Utah: Utah State Agricultural College, 1955. (FHL film 237848; computer number 374478.) This is an in-depth study of the history of the Mormon land system. There are maps throughout the volume.

Linford, Lawrence, L. "Establishing and Maintaining Land Ownership in Utah Prior to 1869." *Utah Historical Society Quarterly*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, vol. 42 no. 2, Spring 1974: 126-43. (FHL book 979.2 H2u; computer number 147072.) This is a history describing how lands were divided. It is full of quotations from journals and newspapers. Primarily, it covers Salt Lake City.

## Federal Land Records (1869–present)

Federal land surveys began in 1855. They established the first general land office to sell lands in the public domain in Salt Lake City in 1869. Other offices were located in Beaver (1876–1877) and Vernal (1905–1927). Land was available through the land offices to individuals (entrymen) who paid a down payment (cash entry) for a piece of property or to homesteaders who paid a small entry fee.

Land office officials maintained registers of land office business and kept separate case files for each entryman. They listed information about entries in tract books (registers containing a written description of each entry) and township plats (maps showing the lots for each township).

After an individual completed the requirements for land entry, his case file was sent to the General Land Office in Washington, D.C. This office confirmed that everything was in order and issued a patent (official land title) transferring the rights of land ownership from the government.

Since land in Utah had been settled for more than 20 years when the land office opened, it was often difficult to make the government land packages fit the existing town and farm lots. Often a "trustee" received the patent and then distributed the land among several others. Records of these secondary transfers should be listed in the county recorder's office.

The library has tract books and land ownership maps for Utah. For more information about these records and other federal land records, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972) in the "Land and Property" and the "Maps" sections.

The following offices have federal land records for Utah:

- Bureau of Land Management  
Utah State Office  
324 South State, Suite 400  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2303  
Telephone: 801-539-4001  
Fax: 801-539-4260



This office has copies of patents and tract books from 1869 to the present, survey plats and notes beginning in the 1850s, and township plats showing to whom the land was sold.

- National Archives—Denver Branch  
Building 48  
West 6th Ave. & Kipling  
Denver Federal Center  
Denver, CO 80225  
Telephone: 303-236-0817

The Denver Branch has land office records for Utah, including correspondence, surveys, homestead and cash entry registers, receipts, and final certificates. An inventory of their land records is:

Barker, Joel. *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of Land Management—Utah*. Denver, Colo.: Archives Branch, Federal Archives and Records Center, 1979. (FHL book 979.2 A1 no. 56; computer number 481781.) This book provides a history of the land dealings and surveys. It lists what is available, the dates, how it is arranged, and a description.

- National Archives & Records Administration  
7th Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20408  
Telephone: 202-501-5400  
Fax: 202-501-5340

Mailing address:  
General Branch  
Civil Archives Division  
National Archives  
Washington, D.C. 20408

The Washington National Records Center has tract books of entries for Utah to about 1964; two indexed case files, one from 1869 to 1908 and the other file from 1908 to about 1973; and patents from 1869 to 1908.

- The Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern States Office  
7450 Boston Blvd.  
Springfield, VA 22153-3121  
Telephone: 703-440-1600  
Fax: 703-440-1609

The Bureau has land patents for Utah since 1908.

### State Land Records (1896–present)

At the time of statehood, the federal government granted the state of Utah four sections of land in each township.

The state has sold or leased some of this land. State land is managed by:

Utah State Government  
State Lands and Forestry  
1594 W. North Temple, Suite 3520  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5703  
Telephone: 801-538-5100  
Fax: 801-533-4111

Mailing Address:  
Box 145703  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5703

This office has public sale files, patents, and certificates of sale since 1896. They also have lease files from the 1860s. Agreements and applications to purchase land since 1896 have been sent to the Utah State Archives.

### County Land Records (after 1869)

After the federal government transferred land to private owners, it could be sold again, inherited, or lost by foreclosure. In Utah, these transactions have been recorded in the county recorder's office. The Family History Library has a few of these records from some counties. They are usually indexed by grantor and grantee for each volume.

The Family History Library has copies of early land records, including early probate court records, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints membership records, and county deed records. The library has records for many counties for various time periods. Look in the Locality Search in the Family History Library Catalog under:

#### UTAH, [COUNTY] - LAND AND PROPERTY

To locate existing land records, contact the county recorder's office or the Utah State Archives. The county clerk may also have land records.

### MAPS

Maps and atlases are used to locate the places where your ancestors lived. They identify political boundaries, names of places, geographical features, cemeteries, churches, and migration routes. Historical maps are especially useful for finding communities that no longer exist and old county boundaries. The Family History Library has maps for some Utah counties and a few of the larger cities. Some of the city maps list the property owners.

The following atlases and maps may help you with your research:

*Atlas of Utah*. Ogden, Utah: Weber State College and Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1981. (FHL book Q979.2 E7a; computer number 127445.) This important work contains reference, topographical, historical, resource, boundary, population, and settlement maps.

Miller, David E. *Utah History Atlas*. 2nd ed. N.p.: Miller, 1968. (FHL book 979.2 E2m; computer number 73653.) This atlas illustrates the routes of early explorers, Mormon settlements, boundary changes, and other historical events.

Tackitt, Jim W. *1866 County Map of Utah and Nevada*. 1966. Reprint, Concord, Calif.: Tackitt Photographic, 1990? (FHL map 979 E7u; computer number 589995.) This small map shows 1866 county boundaries and town locations. It also identifies the Indian lands and tribes.

*General Highway Maps*. 3 vols. N.p.: The Commission, 1937-1951. (FHL book folio 979.2 E7g; computer number 158517.) Arranged by county, this three-volume set contains 89 maps illustrating cemeteries; roads; schools; churches; cities and towns; rivers; and range, township, and section numbers.

An inventory of Utah maps before 1900 is:

Moffat, Riley Moore. *Printed Maps of Utah to 1900: An Annotated Cartobibliography*. Santa Cruz, Calif.: Western Association of Map Libraries, 1981. (FHL book 979.2 E33m; computer number 49341.) The book is arranged by the years the maps were published. The book covers 11 libraries throughout Utah and the Bancroft Library at the University of California-Berkeley. It gives the size and a description of the maps.

More current state, county, or city maps may identify current jurisdictions. The Utah Department of Transportation has road maps for each county and for some Utah cities and towns. Most of the publication dates are 1973 and 1974. A fee is charged for these maps. The state map is more current and is available at no cost. These maps may be obtained by writing or visiting:

UDOT Community Relations  
4501 South 2700 West  
P. O. Box 141200  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-1200  
Telephone: 801-965-4000

The Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University and the Marriott Library at the University of Utah have excellent collections of maps and atlases for Utah. The "Gazetteer" and "Land and Property" sections of this outline also help with identifying places. To find

maps and atlases at the Family History Library, use the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the following:

UTAH - MAPS  
UTAH - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - MAPS  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - MAPS

## **MILITARY RECORDS**

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Many military records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, the National Archives—Denver Branch, and the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library also has military histories for the various military engagements. The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

### **The Mexican War and the Mormon Battalion (1846–1848)**

In July of 1846 a battalion of more than 500 Mormon men left Council Bluffs, Iowa to reinforce the United States Army in California during the Mexican War. After they were discharged, most battalion members came to Utah while a few chose to stay in California.

The Family History Library and the Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have some records and indexes. The "Military Records" sections of the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080), and the *Iowa Research Outline* (31052) 3<sup>rd</sup> edition describe the Mormon Battalion military records.

### **Utah Militia (1849–1887)**

The Constitution of the Provisional State of Deseret officially created the Utah Militia in 1849 to protect the settlers. The constitution required all men between the ages of 18 and 45 to participate. Organizations for boys ages 14 to 17 and men ages 45 to 75 also existed. The federal government took control of the militia in 1887 with the passage of the Edmunds-Tucker act.

The Utah State Archives has the largest collection of Utah Militia records. The Family History Library has some Utah Militia records such as muster rolls and payroll lists found in:

United States. War Department. *Utah Territorial Militia Muster Rolls, 1849 to 1870*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 485554–58; computer number 406485.) These are arranged by military districts. Most districts are connected to each county.



Utah State Archives. *Utah Territory Militia; Nauvoo Legion Correspondence Orders and Reports, 1–2126*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (On 6 FHL films beginning with 497709; computer number 345824.) This manuscript includes correspondence, orders, and reports. It is indexed by place names, subjects, and personal names.

Gardner, Hamilton. *Pioneer Military Leaders of Utah*. Typescript, 1952. (University of Utah, Marriott Library, Ms 57) This is a military history of Utah from 1847 to 1898, focusing on the activities of the Territorial Militia. A register is available.

## Indian Wars (1849–1868) and (1879–1880)

Although American Indian and pioneer relations were generally peaceful, there were a few serious conflicts, including:

- Incident at Battle Creek, 1849
- Walker War, 1853–1854
- Gosiute War, 1863
- Battle of Bear River, 1863 (Including part of Idaho)
- Black Hawk War, 1865–1868
- Ute Indian Campaign, Colorado and Utah, 1879–1880

United States troops from Fort Douglas were involved in the Gosiute War and the Battle of Bear River. In the other Indian wars, only the settlers and the American Indians were involved.

The Utah State Archives have several important collections of records for Utah soldiers who were involved in Indian wars. Several records are also available at the Family History Library. Some of the more important records are:

Utah State Archives. (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Card Index to Military Records of the Indian Wars in Utah, 1866–1867; A–Z*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 536221; computer number 345759.) This is in alphabetical order. The sections from J. M. Smith to Robert William are out of order and are filed after James Barlow.

Utah. Board of Commissioners of Indian War Records. *Service Records of Indian Wars in Utah, 1853–1868*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 485506–16; computer number 203963.) These records give the name, town of residence, years in the county, age, service information, residence and

age at joining, length of service, date of release, engagements, and affidavits of two witnesses.

*Correspondence Records Concerning Indian War Pensions (1914–1928)*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 485517–31; computer number 205406.) These records are arranged alphabetically. They include proof of service for benefits.

Besides the Utah records of correspondence for pensions, federal records exist for these men. For information about federal pension records see the *U. S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

Historical accounts of the Indian war period are in:

Peterson, John Alton. *Utah's Black Hawk War*. Salt Lake City: Univ. of Utah Press, 1998. (FHL book 979.2 H2pe; title number 823497.) This history of the conflict includes an index with personal names in it.

Gottfredson, Peter. *History of Indian Depredations in Utah*. Salt Lake City: Skelton, 1919. (FHL book 979.2 F3g; film 1421844 item 10; computer number 145333.) This source contains accounts from histories, diaries, newspaper files, and interviews. It identifies many of the settlers who were killed during the Indian wars. This book is indexed in:

*Index to History of Indian Depredations in Utah [by] Peter Gottfredson*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1942. (FHL book 979.2 F3g index; computer number 555004.)

## The Utah War (1857–1861)

The Utah War began when President James Buchanan appointed a governor to replace the Latter-day Saint leader Brigham Young. He ordered several thousand United States troops to the Utah Territory in 1857 to enforce the appointment and challenge an alleged Mormon rebellion. When the Army arrived in 1858, the conflict was settled peacefully. The army built Camp Floyd, southwest of Salt Lake City, and the soldiers remained there until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861.

Records of Utah participants are found in the Utah Militia records mentioned previously. The United States Army records have information of the troops involved in this “war.” Registers of Enlistment in the U.S. Army, 1798–1914 includes the U.S. troops who came to Utah. Information about these records is found in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

The library has several published accounts of the Utah War, such as:

Johnston, Connor and the Mormons: An Outline of Military History in Northern Utah. [Salt Lake City: N.p.], 1962. (FHL book 979.2 M2j; fiche 6117855 [set of 5]; computer number 315383.) This book is a history of Camp Floyd and Fort Douglas. It includes the names of individuals buried in the post cemeteries and lists a few marriages from 1863 to 1868. It also includes a bibliography.

Moorman, Donald R. *Camp Floyd and the Mormons, the Utah War*. Utah Centennial Series, v. 7. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1992. (FHL book 979.2 M2mo; computer number 659883.) This history of the Utah War includes a name and subject index and a bibliography.

## Civil War (1861–1865)

Utah's participation in the Civil War was minimal. Two small units of the Utah Militia were called to guard the stage coach routes, telegraph lines, and the mail. A few men enlisted and went east to fight in the war. Their records are located with the federal records.

The Family History Library and the National Archives have the service records of volunteer Union soldiers who served in the Lot Smith Company from the Territory of Utah.

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the Territory of Utah*. National Archive Microfilm Publications, M0692. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1967. (FHL film 821588; computer number 279682.) This includes data about Lot Smith's Company, Utah Calvary. The alphabetical index to these service records is found separately in:

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the Territory of Utah*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0556. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1964. (FHL film 1292645; computer number 110832.)

A few Utah veterans applied for Civil War pensions. These records are at the National Archives. The Family History Library has a microfilmed index to the pension records. The information is found in the *U. S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

The Family History Library has the 1890 census of Union Veterans. This includes union veterans and their widows living in Utah in 1890. See the "Census" section of this outline for more information.

The most dramatic event of the Civil War for Utah was the arrival of Colonel Patrick E. Connor and 750 volunteer soldiers from California and Nevada. They founded Fort Douglas in 1862. Information about these soldiers can be found in:

Utah State Archives (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Military Records of the Civil War*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 536239; computer number 345820.) This is the official record of the veterans of the 3rd California infantry and the 2nd California cavalry. The record is from the Utah State records.

Orton, Richard H. *Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, 1861–1867*. Sacramento, Calif.: State Office, 1890. (FHL book 979.4 M2a; film 1000133 item 4; fiche 6051180; computer number 230630.) This has a roster of the California troops. It lists their name, rank, place of enrollment, date of enlistment and muster, and remarks. This book is indexed in:

Parker, J. Carlyle. *A Personal Name Index to Orton's "Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1867."* Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1978. (FHL book 979.4 M2a index; computer number 165493.)

By 1890, about 40 percent of the Civil War Union veterans were members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The descriptive books of each GAR post usually show each member's name, age, rank, birthplace, residence, occupation, and enlistment and discharge information. The Family History Library has membership records for some posts. Some are found in:

Grand Army of the Republic. Department of Utah. *Grand Army of the Republic Utah Membership*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives, 1981. (On 3 FHL films beginning with 1666083; computer number 631463.) This film contains membership information for posts 1–5, 7, and 22.

The GAR organization has published Civil War history books. A history about the Civil War and veteran organizations in Utah is:

Fisher, Margaret M. *Utah and the Civil War*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1929. (FHL book 979.2 H2f; computer number 144710.) This contains the rosters of the Lot Smith expedition and the Robert T. Burton expedition. The J. Q. Knowlton GAR post directed the writing of this history.



## Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899–1902)

About 700 men from Utah volunteered to serve during the Spanish-American War. Utah units fought in the Philippines and served in Florida, San Francisco, and Hawaii.

Utah State Archives (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Spanish-American War; Index to Utah Units*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 536240; computer number 345825.) This volume lists the soldier's rank, age, place of birth, residence, next of kin, occupation, and enlistment information. The original manuscripts are at the Utah State Archives.

Utah muster-in rolls for 1898 to 1899 are at the Utah State Archives and on film at the Family History Library:

*Military Records, Spanish-American War, 1898–1899 (Utah)*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 485751; computer number 143342.) They contain the soldier's name, rank, age, place of birth, and occupation. The muster-out roll has date last paid, destination, and place of discharge.

Published histories of Utah volunteers include:

*History of the Volunteers in the Spanish-American War and in the Philippine Islands*. Salt Lake City: W. F. Ford, 1900. (FHL book 979.2 M2p; film 1697617 item 5; computer number 144880.) This source includes the names of volunteers for wars from 1898–1901. It gives biographical sketches of officers and men from Utah. There is a roster of men listing name, rank, and residence along with the official reports.

Mabey, Charles R. *The Utah Batteries, A History*. Salt Lake City: N.p., 1900. (FHL book 979.2 M2m; film 1000615 item 5; computer number 46297.) This book includes each soldier's name and place of residence at time of enlistment.

The pension index for soldiers from this war are found with the Civil War Pension indexes. See the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for information on this index.

## Mexican Border Campaign (1916–1917)

In 1916 the United States had trouble at the United States-Mexico border. The Utah National Guard served with other state units on the Mexican Border from March 1916 to February 1917.

The Family History Library has some records from the Utah State Archives on this campaign. These records

include the Mexican Border Service muster rolls and the Index to Utah participants:

Utah State Archives (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Mexican Border Campaign (15 Mar. 1916–5 Feb. 1917). Index to Those Who Participated From Utah*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL film 536225; computer number 345823.) This record is arranged alphabetically by surname. It gives each person's name; rank; unit; and dates and places of enlistment, muster, and discharge.

The pension index for soldiers from this campaign is found with the federal pension indexes. See the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for further information.

## World War I (1917–1919)

More than 24,000 men from Utah served in World War I. The Family History Library has a copy of the set of service questionnaires for World War I soldiers from the Utah State Archives:

United States. War Department. *World War I Service Records of Utahns*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 485733–50; computer number 143562.) The records are arranged alphabetically and contain such information as the soldier's date and place of birth, names of parents, and names of spouse and children. Photographs are included for many soldiers.

The Family History Library and Utah State Archives have service records which list the person's residence, date and place of birth, injuries, residence at time of joining, enlistment place, service, and discharge date. They are arranged alphabetically. Records for both the Army and Marine Corps are:

United States. Marine Corps. *World War I Service Records, Marines (from Utah)*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Record Service, 1973. (FHL film 1643885; computer number 570836.)

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *World War I Service Records, Army (Utah)*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Record Service, 1973. (FHL films 1643886–94; computer number 570845.)

A published roster of soldiers is found in:

Warrum, Noble. *Utah in the World War*. Salt Lake City: Utah Council of Defense, 1924. (FHL book 979.2 M2w; film 1033897 item 8; computer number 145830.) This book lists the soldier's name, place of residence upon enlistment, and dates of service.

World War I draft registration cards for men ages 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards of Utah see:

United States. Selective Service System. *Utah, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987–1988. (On 20 FHL films beginning with 1983881; computer number 764757.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and place of residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board. All the counties, except Salt Lake and Weber, had only one board. Weber County has several for Ogden and one for the rest of Weber. Salt Lake County has several boards. Salt Lake City boards are separated from the county.

### World War II (1942–1945)

More than 65,000 Utah men and women served in the armed forces during World War II. They are included in an alphabetical card index that lists date and place of birth, name and address of next of kin, marital status, name and address of spouse, and military history for each individual.

Utah State Archives (Salt Lake City, Utah). *Index to Military Records of World War II. Veterans from Utah*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 536228–38; computer number 345821.) This record is arranged separately by branch of service, then alphabetically by surname.

### Additional Military Records

For information about veteran burials in Utah, see the "Cemeteries" section of this outline.

The Utah State Archives has a large collection of military records. A current listing of their holdings is available at the Internet site. A published inventory of their military holdings in 1981 is:

Utah State Archives and Records Service. *Inventory, Military Department, Record Group 027, Microfilms and Microfiche*. Salt Lake City: Archives, 1981. (FHL book 979.2 M2u; computer number 100736.) This gives the accession number, title, period covered, subject, and geography covered by the records.

Many records are also located at the Family History Library. Histories of each war are available. This outline

gives some of the records for Utah. More will be listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - MILITARY HISTORY  
UTAH - MILITARY RECORDS

## MINORITIES

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Knowledge of the history of the ethnic, racial, and religious groups your ancestors belonged to is important. This historical background can help you identify where your ancestors lived, when they lived there, and where they moved. This information will help you understand the types of records they might be listed in and the history of your family.

Minorities usually appear in the same records as other Utahns. Search for members of minority groups in the same records you would search for anyone else. Then look for additional records of a particular minority.

### The People of Utah

The majority of Utahns are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from the United States and Northern Europe. Other groups came from such diverse areas as Australia, South Africa, the Pacific Islands, and the Near East. A few African-Americans were among the earliest immigrants in Utah.

People not belonging to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints came from all parts of the United States and foreign countries. Jewish merchants established businesses in Utah cities and a small Jewish community was organized in Clarion in 1911.

Mining discoveries and the arrival of the railroad in the 1860s brought thousands of new settlers to the territory. These included small communities of African-Americans, Asians, and immigrants from the Balkans, the Mediterranean, and the Middle East. Many immigrants settled in Carbon and other eastern Utah counties. A land boom in the Uintah Basin in 1905 attracted homesteaders to eastern Utah.

A small number of Hispanics from Colorado and New Mexico settled in San Juan County near the beginning of the 19th century. Since then, many Hispanics settled in the state.

Maps and tables that describe settlement patterns in Utah and list locations and dates of settlements are found in Deon C. Greer's *Atlas of Utah* mentioned in the "Maps" section of this outline.



Some books cover many minorities and some are devoted to only one group. The following contain good overviews of the minorities of Utah:

Hodson, Dean R. *The Origin of Non-Mormon Settlements in Utah, 1847–1896*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms, 1971? (FHL film 1730829; computer number 528666.) This does not circulate to Family History Centers. This source is a dissertation about the communities of Stockton, Corinne, and Park City. Nonmembers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints settled these three communities. This book gives a background of the relationships between the different religions.

*The Peoples of Utah*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1976. (FHL book 979.2 F2p; computer number 144521.) This book contains histories of many ethnic groups in Utah, including American Indians. An expert on the minority group wrote each section. An index is included.

The following books are devoted to the Jews and African-Americans:

Brooks, Juanita. *History of the Jews in Utah and Idaho*. Salt Lake City: Western Epics, 1973. (FHL book 979 F2b; computer number 264255.) This is an indexed book on the history of the Jewish communities in Utah. It begins in 1849 and continues to about 1961. The book includes a list of the deaths in the various congregations from 1922 to about 1954.

Coleman, Ronald Gerald. *A History of Blacks in Utah, 1825–1910*. 1980. Reprint, Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms International, 1990. (FHL 979.2 F2c; computer number 553992.) This book covers differing occupations, from trappers to African-American soldiers. In the appendix, a census summary is found and a study on occupations.

For American Indian records, read the “Native Races” section of this outline. Histories and records of a few ethnic groups, including Germans, Jews, Basques, and Swedes, are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

#### UTAH - MINORITIES

Many state, county, and city histories have sections devoted to minorities. They can be found under:

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - HISTORY  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - HISTORY  
UTAH - HISTORY

## NATIVE RACES

If you believe your family has Indian ancestry, first identify a specific time period and locality for your ancestor by using other Utah and United States records. Knowing and studying the history of the tribe is vital in finding available records.

Many tribes are found in Utah. They are: Bannock, Dieguenos, Fremont, Gosiutes, Hopi, Knosh, Koosharem, Indian Peak, Mojobes, Navajo, Paiute, Quenchans, Shivwits, Shoshoni, Ute, Uintah, White River, Wiminuche, White River Band, Uncamahre Band, Yuta, and Zuni.

### Utah Superintendency (1850–1870)

American Indians living in Utah were administered by the Utah Superintendency of the United States Office of Indian Affairs from 1850 to 1870. Copies of records for the Utah Superintendency from 1853 to 1870 are at the National Archives, the National Archives—Denver Branch, and the Family History Library.

United States. Office of Indian Affairs, Utah Superintendency. *Records of the Utah Superintendency of Indian Affairs, 1853–1870*. National Archives Microfilm Publication, M0834. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1971. (FHL films 1025139–40; computer number 218632.) The record is arranged chronologically and does not have an index. The second film, “Miscellaneous Records,” includes names of American Indians.

### Records Created by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) (1870–present)

In 1870, BIA agencies replaced the Utah Superintendency. The largest agency in Utah is the:

Uintah and Ouray Reservation  
Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Council  
P.O. Box 190  
Fort Duchesne, UT 84026  
Telephone: 801-722-5141  
Fax: 801-722-2374

Other agencies serving Utah’s American Indians are the Southern Paiute Field Station in Utah, Western Navajo and Shiprock in Arizona, Fort Hall in Idaho, Elko in Nevada, and Ute Mountain in Colorado. Their addresses are found in:

*Reference Encyclopedia of the American Indian*. 7th ed. West Nyack, N.Y.: Todd Publications, 1995. (FHL book 970.1 R259e 1995; computer number 735583.) This book contains directories for the United States and Canada. In addition to the addresses, there are

bibliography and biography sections. The book is indexed.

The local agency and the area office of the BIA usually have records of Indians currently associated with a reservation. Some earlier records have been sent to the National Archives or to the National Archives branch that serves the area. The National Archives—Denver Branch has important collections of BIA records for Utah. The Laguna Niguel, San Bruno, Fort Worth, and Seattle Branches also have some records relating to American Indians in Utah.

The Family History Library has copies of some agency records. Two examples of agency records are:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Uintah and Ouray Agency. *Vital Records of the Ute Indians to 1946*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1953. (FHL films 01763–69; computer number 150732.) The record is alphabetically arranged by family name. It gives degree of Indian blood, tribe, birth and death dates, parents' names with their birth and death dates, and siblings' birth, death, and marriage information.

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Indian Census Rolls, Fort Hall, 1883–1939*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0595. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1965. (FHL films 576493–99; computer number 760467.) This record covers Bannock tribes from 1885 to 1939. It is arranged into family units and gives sex, age, and family relationship information. The Indian and English names are also listed.

Major James McLaughlin was assigned to the American Indians in Utah for many years. His correspondence and documents contain many records about the Navajos and the Utes. The papers are found in the following:

McLaughlin, James. *Major James McLaughlin Papers, 1855–1937*. Richardton, N. Dak.: Assumption Abbey Archives, 1968. (On 39 FHL films beginning with 494467; computer number 213071.) These records include enrollments, school records, absentee Indians, and censuses. Two rolls of films index the collection. The indexes are on films 541379–80 and contain more than a hundred cards about Utah.

## Tribal Records

Tribal organizations have kept statistics, enrollment, and other records since the 1930s. Tribal organizations in Utah are the Ute Indian Tribe, the White Mesa Utes, Goshute Indian Tribe, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Navajo Nation, North West Band of Shoshone Tribe, and

the Skull Valley Goshute Tribe. For current tribal addresses, contact:

Division of Indian Affairs  
324 S. State, Suite 500  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
Telephone: 801-538-8808

The Family History Library has some tribal records. You may locate others through the BIA agency or tribe. One tribal record is found in:

*Family Records of Uintah and Whiteriver Utes, 1867–1948*. 2 vols. N.p., 1958. (FHL book 970.3 Ut2f; film 1035932 item 3; computer number 136860.) The family group sheets are arranged alphabetically and also found by an index. The degree of Indian blood and tribe, parents, and spouses are listed.

## Church and Cemetery Records

Helpful information about reservation families can often be found in church and cemetery records. Search tribal histories or contact the agency, the tribal office, or the reservation for information about specific religious denominations and local cemeteries.

The Family History Library has a few records of this type. For example, the library has a record of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints baptisms in 1875 entitled:

*Records of the Baptisms of the Indians in Grass Valley in 1875*. N.p., 19--? (FHL book 970.1 A1 no. 63; film 982289 item 5; computer number 211836.) Grass Valley is now known as Koosharem, Sevier County Utah. The book and film have a typed list and a photocopy of the original baptisms. The names of the American Indians and the person who baptized and confirmed them are listed along with the date of baptism.

The records will be listed in the Family History Library Catalog Subject Search under the name of the tribe, or in the Locality Search under the town as follows:

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH  
RECORDS

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - NATIVE RACES  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES

## Federal Population Censuses

The 1900, 1910, and 1920 U.S. population censuses enumerated American Indians associated with reservations or agencies. These censuses are found in the population schedules of the federal census. The "Census" section of this outline explains these records.



## Genealogy

Several sources include genealogies of the American Indians. These genealogies provide information about parents and other ancestors. Individuals and societies have gathered genealogies. One example is:

Cury, Rex D. *Indian Genealogical Records, 1835–1946*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1981. (FHL film 1033685 item 6; computer number 69639.) The names of the families are arranged in alphabetical order. The record includes name, tribe, birth and death information, and degree of Indian blood. The names of parents, spouse, and children are included with their birth and death information.

## History

You may need to begin by learning some history of Utah Indian reservations. Two sources are:

“Indian Reservations of the West.” *Heart Throbs of the West*. 1, (1939): 127–145. (FHL book 979.2 H2cah; computer number 149968.) This brief article outlines the history of eight separate reservations. It provides details of the beginning of the reservation and some history on the tribe. Narrations are quoted from journals of leaders.

Taylor, Eli F. “Indian Reservations in Utah.” *Utah Historical Quarterly*. 4, no. 1 (Jan. 1931): 29–32. (FHL book 979.2 H2u; computer number 147072.) This article gives a brief history of the different reservations throughout Utah. It give information such as dates established, size, and by whose authority they were established.

Histories of some tribes available at the Family History Library or through public libraries. Some state and county histories give a background history on the tribes in their area. Check the “History” section of this outline for general Utah histories. An example of history about the Ute Indians is:

Dixon, Madoline Cloward. *These Were the Utes*. Provo, Utah: Press Publishing Limited, 1983. (FHL book 970.3 Ut2d; computer number 564195.) This source discusses lifestyle, wars, and legends. There are historical and biographical stories.

## Other Repositories

Libraries and societies have published sources, manuscripts, or collections of materials relating to American Indians. For example, the Marriott Library at the University of Utah is a repository for the Oral History Program of the Doris Duke Grant. This grant is devoted to collecting American Indian oral histories.

The *United States Research Outline* (30972) provides an overview of major federal records helpful for researching American Indian ancestry. The outline includes step-by-step suggestions for researching the records. The agency records and tribal records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search under:

UTAH - NATIVE RACES  
UNITED STATES - NATIVE RACES

Also, look under the Subject Search for the name of the tribe, such as:

NAVAJO INDIANS  
PAIUTE INDIANS  
UTE INDIANS

Additional records may be in the Subject Search under:

INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - UTAH

## NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

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Naturalization is the process of granting citizenship privileges and responsibilities to foreign-born residents. Naturalization papers are an important source of information about an immigrant's nation of origin, his foreign and “Americanized” names, residence, and date of arrival. Information in post-1906 records is more detailed and may include birth dates, birth places, and other information about the immigrant and members of his family.

### Naturalization in Territorial Utah

Immigrants in territorial Utah typically filed for naturalization in the probate courts from the 1850s to 1874. Because of the problems between the federal government and the members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, most members went to probate courts. The judges in the probate courts were usually members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which made it easier for other members to become citizens. From the 1850s to 1896 federal district courts were also used and other courts, such as county courts, were occasionally used for the naturalization process.

Many members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who applied for naturalization during the 1870s and 1880s were denied naturalization because of their belief in polygamy. This was seldom a problem after the Manifesto of 1890 that advised members to discontinue the practice of polygamy.

## Naturalization Since 1896

Since 1896 most naturalizations have been processed by the state district courts or the United States District Court for the District of Utah.

**State district courts.** The state district courts naturalized immigrants from 1896 to about 1979. The records of these courts are located in the county clerk's office for each county or at the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library has copies of some records.

### **United States District Court for the District of Utah.**

The central division office of this court in Salt Lake City has naturalization court orders, petitions, and certificate stubs from 1898 to the present. This office maintains an incomplete but helpful index of their naturalization records from 1908 to the present.

To learn more about the different courts see the "Court Records" section of this outline.

## Location of Records

The Family History Library has naturalization records for many counties and different courts. In some counties, the records from different courts are combined. There are two naturalization indexes for the most populated areas of the state. Both indexes cover several courts and several counties. The district courts usually covered more than one county. Check the Utah State Archives Internet site for the counties covered by the different district courts and the years covered. The "Archives and Libraries" section of the outline lists the Internet site.

Utah. District Court. (Utah County). *Naturalization Index, ca 1860–1889*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1989. (FHL film 1643939 item 2 and 1643989; computer number 581069.) The index is divided into two time periods. The first time period covers 1860–1940 and the second covers 1940–1889. This index contains naturalizations recorded in district court minutes, petition books, and probate minutes. Besides Utah county, Juab, Millard, and Emery counties are also covered in this index. The court minutes indexed in this record are found in the following:

Utah. District Court. (Utah County). *Court Minutes, 1852–1966*. Provo, Utah: Utah County Microfilming Department, 1962–1966. (On 18 FHL films beginning with 482920; computer number 143556.) These records consist of the records of the First and Second Judicial District of the Territory of Utah. The naturalization records are found in books until September 1948. Millard, Juab, and Green River (now Emery) counties' records are included until 1886.

Utah. District Court. (Salt Lake County). *Naturalization Records 1853–1936*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Records Service 1980–1981, 1989–1990. (On 48 FHL films beginning with 1643989 item 3; computer number 577923.) The index is located on the first film covering about 1858–1980. The index covers the territorial courts and district courts. It includes most northern Utah counties. The declarations and petitions from 1851–1936 are located in this record. The territorial minutes indexed in this record are found in:

Utah. District Court. (Salt Lake County). *Court Minutes, 1858–1920*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Archives and Records Service, 1981–1982. (On 33 FHL films beginning with 1670847; computer number 578141.) These early minutes include naturalizations. They are arranged chronologically by volume numbers.

Copies of the district court naturalization records since 1906 have been sent to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). The INS case files also include the original applications and may contain affidavits, copies of vital record certificates, photographs, emigration materials, and other information.

The naturalization records are listed in the Locality Search in the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP  
UTAH - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

If the Family History Library does not have the records you need, you may request a search of the INS records from 1906 to the present by contacting the INS office nearest you. If you request information on a living person, you will need that person's written permission.

The Salt Lake City District Office of the INS is:

Immigration and Naturalization Service  
5272 South College Drive  
Murray, UT 84123  
Telephone: 801-265-8678.

## NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers report family information in notices of births, marriages, obituaries, and local news. Newspapers began early in Salt Lake City. Two major Utah newspapers are the *Deseret News* and the *Salt Lake Tribune*.



The *Deseret News* was the first newspaper published in Utah. The first edition was printed in June 1850 in Salt Lake City. Their address is:

Deseret News  
30 East 100 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110  
Telephone: 801-237-2155  
Internet address: [www.deseretnews.com/dn](http://www.deseretnews.com/dn)

The newspapers from 1988 to the present are on-line. For earlier editions, individuals are encouraged to use the films at the Family History Library or the records at a public library.

The Family History Library has a complete collection of the *Deseret News* to 1961. The Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also has a complete collection up to the present time. The *Deseret News* was published under different names. They are:

*Deseret News (Salt Lake City, Utah)*. 1850–1898. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1957. (FHL films 26586–614; computer number 161285.) Published weekly.

*Deseret News (Salt Lake City, Utah)*. 1866–1905. Salt Lake City: Office of the Church Historian, 1960–1961. (FHL films 241150-81; computer number 99371.) Published semi-weekly.

*Deseret Evening News (Salt Lake City, Utah)*, 1867–1961. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1955–1961. (On 437 FHL films beginning with 26899; computer number 77288.) Copies of the *Church News* are included. Published daily.

The *Salt Lake Tribune* began printing in 1871. The Salt Lake Tribune Data Center has copies from 1871 to the present on microfilm. They also have an index by name and subject from 1941 to 1991. You can request a search of their files for a fee. The issues from September 1991 to the present are on-line. Their address is:

Salt Lake Tribune  
143 South Main Street, Mezzanine  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Telephone 801-237-2001  
Internet address: [www.sltrib.com/](http://www.sltrib.com/)

The Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has copies of the newspaper from 1871 to the present time. These are indexed by name and subject. The Family History Library only has films from the first two years of the Salt Lake Tribune. They are in the following:

*Salt Lake Daily Tribune and Utah Mining Gazette*. Vol. 1–3. Salt Lake City: Office of the Church Historian, 1961. (FHL films 241182–85; computer numbers 328966, 330495.) This covers the time period from 1871 to 1873.

For histories on publishing newspapers and listings of Utah newspapers see:

Alter, J. Cecil. *Early Utah Journalism*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1938. (FHL book 979.2 B3a; computer number 142050.) This book lists the newspapers by town and then chronologically. It includes some history of the newspapers and dates published to about 1938. It is indexed by names, newspapers, and subjects. It focuses on the conflict between the differing political parties.

*Utah's Newspapers, Traces of Her Past*. Salt Lake City: Marriott Library, University of Utah, 1984. (FHL book 979.2 A3un; computer number 363125.) This source is taken from papers presented at the Utah Newspaper Project Conference at the University of Utah in 1983. It contains a list of the Utah newspapers.

The Marriott Library at the University of Utah, the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, and the Utah State Historical Society Library have collections of Utah newspapers. The Utah State Historical Society Library has a newspaper clip file collected from the 1950s to 1995 with articles about Utah people. The Harold B. Lee Library has an index to early Utah newspapers.

The Family History Library has other newspapers from many Utah cities and counties. To locate the newspaper collections, check in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - NEWSPAPERS  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - NEWSPAPERS

## OBITUARIES

Obituaries are usually the best source of biographical information about an ancestor. They usually include religion, birth, marriage, and death information about the deceased and names of parents, children, and other relatives. There are a few indexes to obituaries for Utah newspapers at the library. Some newspapers have indexes on-line through the Internet. The "Newspaper" section of this outline describes availability of the newspapers.

A combined obituary index for the *Deseret News* and the *Salt Lake Tribune* covers from 1850 to 1970. This index includes names from early publications of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that recorded deaths

listed from many areas of Utah. It is alphabetical by name of the deceased. The cards give the birth year of the deceased, date of the obituary, newspaper, and page.

*Obituary Index File to The Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News as of 31 December 1970.* Salt Lake City: Church Historians Office, 1971. (FHL films 821636-99; computer number 350135.) This index is also available at the Salt Lake Public Library, the Church History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the Utah State Historical Society.

A similar index is available for the Ogden Standard Examiner:

Ogden Branch Genealogical Library. *Obituary Index to Ogden Standard Examiner, 1888 to 1910.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1974. (FHL films 934251-57; computer number 51277.)

Local genealogical and historical societies and public libraries maintain clip files of obituaries. Some individuals keep scrapbooks of obituaries and then donate them to the Family History Library. Check the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search for other indexes or clippings from the newspapers under:

UTAH - OBITUARIES

UTAH, [COUNTY] - OBITUARIES

UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - OBITUARIES

If you find a reference to an obituary, look at the "Newspapers" section of this outline for information on obtaining a copy the newspaper. Also, you may want to search the newspaper for the time of death.

## PERIODICALS

Most family history periodicals reprint copies of local sources of genealogical value. These may include biographical sketches, genealogies, information about local records and archives, queries, census indexes, transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery indexes, land records, newspaper notices, obituaries, research queries, vital records, and wills.

**Periodicals.** The following periodicals will help in Utah family research. The "Societies" section lists the addresses of some societies and associations who have published the periodicals. Most of the periodicals have been indexed in *PERSI* and the *Early Church Information File*. They are:

*Genealogical Journal.* 1972-. Published by the Utah Genealogical Association, P.O. Box 1144, Salt Lake

City, UT 84110. (FHL book 973 D25gj; computer number 261185.) This quarterly publication contains articles written by family history researchers on sources and research methods. Reviews on genealogical and historical books are included.

*Pioneer, (Sons of the Utah Pioneers).* 1953?, 1981-. Published by the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, 3301 East 2920 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84109. (FHL book 979.2 H25p; film 824069 item 5; computer number 77646.) The magazine prints biographies and histories. Lists of members who have died are published with age of death. Some issues have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*. This periodical is not indexed in *PERSI*.

*Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine.* 31 vols. 1910-1940. Published by the Genealogical Society of Utah. (FHL book 979.2 H25u; films 564348-55; index to Vols. 1-31 on film 1320674 item 43; computer number 33058.) This magazine was published quarterly from 1910 to 1940. Each year there is an index of subjects and people. They have copied these into one volume. However, the years are separate so you need to check each alphabetical list. The periodicals include articles on how to research; lessons; and answers to research problems. Genealogies are published throughout the magazines and many times continued into the next volume. These magazines have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

*Newsletter Utah Genealogical Association.* 1971-. Published by Utah Genealogical Association, P.O. Box 1144, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. (FHL book 929.05 G286gju; computer number 18323.) The newsletter gives new information and notices of upcoming events and includes a genealogical query section.

*Utah Historical Quarterly.* 1928-. Published by the Utah State Historical Society, 300 Rio Grande, Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1182. (FHL book 979.2 H2u; computer number 147072.) This magazine has histories of small places, people, and institutions. The table of contents for all the volumes can be found on their Internet site. You may access a few of the articles through the same site. These have also been added to a compact disc called *Utah Centennial History Suite*. See the "History" section of this outline for more information.

**Indexes.** Most of the periodicals listed above have annual indexes in the final issue for the year. For nationwide indexes to these and other family history periodicals see:



*Periodical Source Index (PERSI)*. 31+ vols. Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1986-1. (FHL book 973D25per 1847-1985; fiche 6016863 [set of 40] (1847-1985); computer number 444407; book 973 D25per (1986-1997); fiche 6016864 [set of 15] (1986-1990); computer number 658308.) This indexes over 1.1 million articles in over 5,000 English-language and French Canadian family history periodicals. For further instructions see the *Periodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119). For easier-to-use, more complete, computer editions of the index see:

*Periodical Source Index CD-ROM*. Orem, Utah: Ancestry™, and the Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1997. (FHL compact disc no. 61; computer number 808087.) This disc does not circulate to Family History Centers. It merges all 31+ volumes into one index.

"Periodical Source Index Search." In Ancestry.com [Internet site]. [Orem, Utah]: Ancestry, 1999. Available at [www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165.htm](http://www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165.htm). This online database is available only to Ancestry.com members for a subscription fee.

For more family history periodicals, search in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - PERIODICALS  
UTAH - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS  
UTAH - HISTORY - PERIODICALS  
UTAH - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS

Other Utah libraries and archives also collect periodicals. Some of their catalogs are available on the Internet. Periodicals may be available through interlibrary loan to your local public library.

## **PROBATE RECORDS**

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Probate cases include the proving of wills and the administering of estates for individuals who have died. They also include such matters as guardianship and insanity proceedings. They are a good source for locating relatives, death dates, and property. Families with property are more likely to be found in probate records than poorer families. The *United States Research Outline* (30972) describes the variety of records created during the probate proceedings.

Probate records in Utah have been kept by several courts. During the territorial period probate records were kept by both the county probate court and the federal district court.

At statehood, the probate courts were abolished, and the powers of the federal district courts were transferred to the state district courts. The state district courts have maintained jurisdiction of probate matters since 1896. Probate divisions of the state district courts in each county handle probate matters. For more information see the "Court Records" section of this outline.

Probate records from the territorial period to the present may be found in either the county clerk's office or the Utah State Archives. You may also find some probate records from the territorial probate courts in the personal journals of early probate judges.

The Family History Library has copies of probate records for many Utah counties. Usually the library only has part of the files created during the probate process. Contact the county clerk for additional records. For Salt Lake County, for example, the library has:

Utah. District Court (Salt Lake County). *Probate Records*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (On 43 FHL films beginning with 425667; computer number 377862.) These records include an index and records from 1852 to 1910. They also contain estates records and guardianship cases.

Utah. District Court. (Salt Lake County). *Register of Estates or Abstracts of Probate Filed 1876-1966, Index 1876-1964*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 425623-66; computer number 377853.) This record also contains guardianships and adoptions.

Probate records may be listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the following headings:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - GUARDIANSHIP

## **SOCIETIES**

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Societies generate genealogies, biographies, histories, and indexes of local records. They may publish periodicals, lists of members and ancestors, yearbooks, or surname indexes. Utah has many societies and associations interested in genealogical research and preserving history and records of Utah. Other groups are lineage societies for descendants of pioneers, soldiers, and ethnic groups.

### **Lineage and Hereditary Societies**

The addresses for major lineage and genealogical societies in Utah are:

- Daughters of Utah Pioneers  
300 North Main  
Salt Lake City, UT 84103  
Telephone: 801-538-1050

The Daughters of Utah Pioneers maintains a museum with pioneer memorabilia and a small library of family histories. Membership applications, showing members' genealogy, are available in their library. Yearly, they publish a volume about the history of Utah that includes biographies of pioneers and early residents of Utah, information about historical sites, and accounts of journeys across the ocean and plains. See the "Biography" section of this outline for information on their publications.

- Sons of Utah Pioneers  
Pioneer Historical Research Library  
3301 East 2920 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84109  
Telephone: 801-484-4441  
Fax: 801-484-4442

The Sons of Utah Pioneers maintains a library with histories, research books, compact discs, and family group sheets. A database of pioneers with biographical information is available and the society keeps files on the Mormon Battalion. Their library includes a Family History Center with FamilySearch. They publish the magazine *Pioneer*, described in the "Periodical" section of this outline.

### **Genealogical and Historical Societies**

- Utah Genealogical Association (UGA)  
PO Box 1144  
Salt Lake City UT 84110  
Telephone: 1-888-463-6842

The Utah Genealogical Association is interested in worldwide genealogical research methodology. They issue pioneer certificates for anyone proving pioneer heritage in Utah. They have two publications, *Genealogical Journal* and *Utah Genealogical Association Newsletter*. The "Periodical" section of this outline gives further publication details.

Some societies have published lists of members. These rosters may give genealogical and biographical information. One example for the Sons of the American Revolution is:

Ward, William R. *Utah Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Roster of Members, 1895-1992*. Salt Lake City: Utah Society, Sons of the American Revolution, 1992. (FHL book 979.2 C4uw; computer number 679735.) This book lists the names of members and their patriot ancestors. Also, biographies are included

for most members giving birth information, parents, spouse, and children.

**Local Societies.** Some counties and towns in Utah also have local historical and genealogical societies. You can find local society addresses by using directories cited in the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Records, publications, and biographies of members from the different groups are found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UTAH - SOCIETIES  
UTAH - GENEALOGY - SOCIETIES

## **TAXATION**

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Tax records are important supplements to census and land records. They can be used to determine place and length of residence. They provide other useful information such as brief descriptions of land and property holdings. County property, county inheritance, city tax, and an early collection of federal tax records are the most commonly used tax records for family history research in Utah.

### **County Property Tax Records**

These records begin as early as the 1850s in some counties and continue to the present. Property tax records usually include a brief description of the property, its value, and the tax assessed. To locate these records, you may contact the office of the county treasurer or the Utah State Archives. Also, county assessors and county clerks may have some tax records.

The Family History Library has copies of some property tax lists. These are listed under the county in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog. For example, for Utah County see:

Utah County. (Utah) Assessor. *Assessment rolls: 1865-1915*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1958, 1965. (On 91 FHL films beginning with 164645; computer number 143531.) These records are grouped mostly by geographic area. In addition to property taxes, they may include sheep tax, businesses, corporations, school tax records, mine proceeds, and copies of published delinquency notices.

### **Inheritance Tax and Lien Records**

Counties began keeping these records in 1901 to help the state determine whether a tax was due on an inheritance. The records contain the names and addresses of individuals who share in an estate and their relationship to the deceased.



Inheritance tax and lien records are found in state district court records located either in the county clerk's office or the Utah State Archives. The library has a few records. For Cache County see:

Utah. District Court (Cache County) *Inheritance Tax, 1905–Apr. 1966*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 431095–96; computer number 212219.) The index is at the beginning of each section and is followed by the records. Names, addresses, and relationship to the deceased are included. The records give the name of the estate, then the executor, administrator, trustee, or grantee. If there was a will, you will find the volume and page number to locate the document in the probate records.

## City Taxes

A variety of city taxes have been charged to Utah residents for city services. During the territorial period, a city assessor or a county official was responsible for city taxes. City assessors, treasurers, or finance directors now handle these matters. To locate city tax records, contact the current city office or the Utah State Archives.

## Federal Tax Records (1862, 1867–1869)

The federal government adopted an income tax from 1862 to 1872 to help finance the Civil War. The Utah State Archives and the Family History Library have a copy of the Utah Territory assessment book for 1862 and 1867 to 1869.

United States Internal Revenue Service. *Assessment Book Division No. 1, for the Territory of Utah 1862, 1867*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1956. (FHL film 25780; computer number 205192.) This is not indexed, so search by locality. The record provides the name of the head of household, how much the property is valued, and how much tax was paid.

## Additional Tax Records

A variety of lesser-known records such as poll, road, tax sale, tax redemption, and tax abatement records can also help with research.

- Poll taxes were collected either in payment or in labor to help build and maintain the road system. Poll tax records began in the 1850s and continued until the tax law was repealed in 1919. Additional road taxes were sometimes collected.

Although the location of many of these records has not been identified, some are at the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library has a collection of road and poll tax lists in:

*Salt Lake City, Utah, Road Tax Lists, 1854–1861; Poll Tax Lists*. Salt Lake City: Accelerated Indexing Systems, 1983. (FHL book 979.2258 R4s; computer number 201562.) This source contains transcriptions of Salt Lake City and Sugarhouse tax lists. It identifies the taxpayer's LDS ward and sometimes the city where individuals moved. This transcript has been indexed in volume one of *Early Mormon Series*:

Jackson, Ronald Vern and David L. Grundvig. *Early Mormon Series*. 2 vols. Salt Lake City: Accelerated Indexing Systems, 1982. (FHL book 979.2 K24j; fiche 6031601 [set of 4]; computer number 171684.) This index includes the ward where the individual lived.

- Tax sale records are created when a taxpayer is delinquent in paying his property taxes. These records begin by at least the 1870s and are found in either the county treasurer's office or the Utah State Archives.
- Tax abatement records exist from the territorial period to the present. These list the names of individuals seeking a tax deferment. They list the reason for the request, such as a physical disability or an inability to pay. They may also list the names of relatives or guardians. To locate these records, contact the county auditor's office or the Utah State Archives. Territorial records are often found in the records of the county court.

Because tax records cover different levels of localities and other subjects, check the following on the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search:

UTAH - TAXATION  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - TAXATION  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - TAXATION

See also:

UTAH, [COUNTY] - LAND AND PROPERTY  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS

## VITAL RECORDS

State, county, and city governments have created records of births, marriages, and deaths. Records containing this information are commonly called "vital records," because they refer to critical events in a person's life.

This section describes the vital records kept by the civil government and where they are found. The Family History Library has many of the records listed here and many other records. The "Church Records" section of this outline describes other sources of vital information. Also, refer to *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline*

(34080) for records pertaining to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

## Territorial Records

The library has some territorial vital records on compact disc for the 1800s to 1906. This index contains birth, marriage, guardianship, naturalization, divorce records and wills. The territory includes Utah, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, and Indian territory. Sources include *Deseret News* notices of vital records, marriages performed by justices of the peace, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints records, and Methodist marriages.

*Territorial Vital Records: Births, Divorces, Guardianship, Marriages Naturalization, Wills.* St. George, Utah: Genealogical CD Publishing, 1994. (FHL compact disc no. 15; computer number 723250.)

## State Records of Births and Deaths

State registration of births and deaths began in 1905 and was generally complied with by 1917. From 1977 to the present, the births and deaths are indexed by computer and may be found at the county vital records offices. For information about state birth and death records, write to:

Bureau of Vital Records  
Utah State Department of Health  
288 North 1460 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2855  
Telephone: 801-538-6105

For genealogical purposes be sure to request a complete, "full copy" of the records.

The Utah State Archives now has copies of death records and a computerized index of deaths. The index covers 1901 to 1948. The death certificates are on 145 films and cover the years from 1904 to 1947. You may call, write, visit, or e-mail the archives for information. The address is listed in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline. Their Internet site provides more details.

Individuals born before 1905 or who did not have a birth certificate may have applied for a delayed birth certificate. The Bureau of Vital Records has issued delayed birth certificates since 1941.

At this time the Family History Library does not have copies of the state records of births and deaths.

## County Records of Births and Deaths

Although a few counties kept earlier records, most counties began keeping ledger entries of births and deaths in 1898. County records to 1905 are kept in the

county clerk's office. Since 1905 county birth and death records have been sent to the Bureau of Vital Records. Some local county health departments have retained copies of these records.

The Utah Genealogical Association has completed an index to the early death records. They have indexed 1898–1905 county death records for all counties except Salt Lake County. The index includes name, sex, age, death date, county page number, and entry or registration number.

Utah Genealogical Association. Professional Genealogists Chapter. *Utah Death Index, 1898–1905, Excluding Salt Lake County.* Salt Lake City: Society, 1995. (FHL 979.2 V42u; computer number 750944.)

For Salt Lake County, the library has birth and death records. These registers usually are indexed. They are:

Salt Lake County (Utah), County Clerk. *Birth Records, 1898–1905.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 431230 and 929287; computer number 215290.) This is for Salt Lake County. However, there is some overlap with the Salt Lake City records. You will find names of parents and child (if known) and the child's date of birth.

Salt Lake County (Utah). County Clerk. *Register of Deaths, Salt Lake County, Book A, 1897–1905.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL film 485535; computer number 175964.) These records are for the county only and do not have Salt Lake City death records. They are indexed. The record gives name, birth and death information, address or city of residence, and sometimes burial information.

The Family History Library has copies of most of the county birth and death records from 1898 to 1905 and more recent records for some counties.

## City Records of Births and Deaths

Salt Lake City, Ogden, and Logan have also kept records of births and deaths. The information below lists the years, the current addresses for obtaining city records, and the records available through the library. Pre-1905 records are often incomplete.

- **Salt Lake City**  
Birth Records (1890–present)  
Death Records (1847–present)

Salt Lake City Health Department  
Vital Records  
610 South 200 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-9990  
Telephone: 801-534-4657



The Family History Library has copies of Salt Lake City birth records and indexes from 1890 to 1950 and 1953. They can only be searched at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Salt Lake City (Utah). Office of Vital Statistics. *Birth Records, 1890–1950, 1953*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1950. (On 76 FHL films beginning with 26477; computer number 215144.) You will find parents' names, child's date of birth, and the child's name if known. Some later records show age of parents, number of children, address, and the doctor who attended the birth.

There are also death records and indexes for Salt Lake City:

Salt Lake City (Utah). Office of Vital Statistics. *Death Records of Salt Lake City, Utah, 1848–Sept 1950*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1950. (FHL films 26553–83; computer number 204093.) These records provide name, birth and death information, address or city, and sometimes burial information.

- **Ogden**

Birth and Death Records (1890–present)

Weber County Health Department  
2570 Grant Avenue  
Ogden, UT 84401  
Telephone: 801-399-8386

The Family History Library does not have Ogden City vital records.

- **Logan**

Birth and Death Records (1869–present). The records before 1905 are incomplete.

Bear River District Health Department  
655 East 1300 North  
Logan, UT 84341  
Telephone: 435-752-3730

The library does not have Logan City vital records.

- **Midwives' records**

The Family History Library has midwives' records for some cities and towns. Such as:

Talbot, Henry James. *Record of Births Kept by H. J. Talbot of the Children Delivered by His Wife, Livinia Ann Wall Talbot*. N.p., [18–1?] (FHL book 979 V2t; film 962649 item 4; computer number 173046.) This covers the years 1878 to 1893 and includes the area from Hyde Park near Logan, Utah to Oxford, a small

community northwest of Preston, Idaho. This book has been indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

## County Marriage Records

**Records before 1887.** Civil registration of marriages was not required in Utah until 1887; however, some records of marriages before 1887 are in justice of the peace or probate court records. These early marriage records were usually filed with other court matters.

Most of these court records are currently at either the county clerk's office or the Utah State Archives. Some are also in the personal journals of individual judges. The Family History Library has pre-1887 court records for many Utah counties.

**Records after 1887.** In 1887, the Edmunds-Tucker Act required that marriage records be kept in the office of the probate court. Beginning in the late 1890s, they were kept by the county clerks. County marriage records from 1887 to the present are currently in either the county clerk's office or the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library has film copies of these records to about 1960 for most counties.

The following records are a sampling of the records available at the library. The counties listed are among the most populated. Most marriage records show names of bride and groom, residences, and ages. Names of witnesses can help identify relatives or neighbors. Later records may include birth information and parents' names.

Salt Lake County (Utah). County Clerk. *Marriage Records, 1887–1965*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1965–1966. FHL films 429035–312; computer number 58710.) The first 18 films index the licenses and certificates. These records have been indexed in the *Early Church Information File* up to 1914.

There is an additional index from 1887 to 1987 available on fiche:

Salt Lake County (Utah). County Clerk. *Alphabetic Marriage Listing 1887–1987*. Salt Lake City: Management Information Systems, 1987. (FHL fiche 6052848–49; computer number 460257.) There are 24 fiche for each number. The first set of fiche is an index to the grooms and the second is an index to the brides. These will lead you to the above record.

Cache County (Utah). County Clerk. *Marriage Records, 1887–1966*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966. (FHL films 430301–36; computer number 213987.) Marriages up to 1914 are indexed in the *Early Church Information File*.

Utah County. (Utah). County Clerk. *Marriage Records of Utah County, 1887-1966*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1959. (On 45 FHL films beginning with 482939; computer number 203933.) These are also indexed in the *Early Church Information File* for marriages up to 1914.

Weber County. (Utah). County Clerk. *Applications for Licenses to Marry, and Original Marriage Certificates, 1888-1947*. Ogden, Utah: Weber County Microfilming Dept., 1970-1971. (FHL films 1670859-85; computer number 605301.) The applications are arranged by certificate numbers, then chronologically. For example, application number 1s from 1888, 1892, 1897, 1919, and 1935 would be filed together. The years on the films overlap and are mixed. No index is available to certificate numbers. The marriages index cards have been placed in the *Early Church Information File*. However, the cards give book and page numbers. You may have to search numerous films or order the certificate from the county.

Weber County Clerk  
2549 Washington Blvd.  
Ogden, UT 84401  
Telephone: 801-399-8019  
Fax: 801-629-8011

Justices of the peace have continued to perform marriages from 1887 to the present. Most justices have given their marriage records to the county clerk, although a few pre-statehood marriages may be listed only in the justices' records. The best way to locate an available collection of justice of the peace records is to contact the county clerk or the Utah State Archives. The Family History Library has a few of these records.

## Marriage Indexes to County Records

For Salt Lake, Utah, and Davis counties, a computer index is available. It is at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

*Marriage License Information System*. Salt Lake City: Ja-Ne't Global-Data Search, 1993. (FHL compact disc no. 8; computer number 697711.) This index covers the years 1800s through 1992. These can be searched by groom's name, bride's name, or date of marriage. The index provides the marriage license number and the county.

The following is a marriage index compiled from civil records by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and organized by the Genealogical Society:

*Miscellaneous Marriage Records Index*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (FHL films 820155-73; computer number 73127.) This source is an incomplete index for Utah counties for the 1860 to 1940 period. The index cards list marriage information for individuals from ten counties: Box Elder, Millard, Morgan, Salt Lake, Sanpete, Sevier, Summit, Utah, Wayne, and Weber. A few counties from Idaho and Wyoming are also included. The original cards have been interfiled with the *Early Church Information File*.

## Vital Records Kept by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Birth and death information for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from the 1840s to the present is often available in membership records or annual reports. The Family History Library has records to 1948.

Many early marriages were performed in the temples of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Before the government recorded marriages, marriages or sealings were only recorded in temple records. Other marriages may have been recorded in Church records or journals of the bishops.

For vital records of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints see the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080).

## Guide to Vital Records

You can learn more about the history and availability of Utah vital records through the Internet for Bureau of Vital Record and Utah State Archives Internet sites. The following book also provides information. The Utah State Board of Health sponsored the survey in 1941.

*Guide to Public Vital Statistics of Utah*. Salt Lake City: Historical Records Survey, 1941. (FHL book 979.2 A3v; fiche 6046623; computer number 4440.) The book has four sections: birth, death, marriage, and divorce. It has samples of the documents being used and a copy of the instructions to the clerks and doctors on how to fill in the forms.

Other birth, marriage, death, and midwife records are available at the Family History Library. These can be found using the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

UTAH - VITAL RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY] - VITAL RECORDS  
UTAH, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS.



## **FOR FURTHER READING**

For more detailed information on records and research in Utah, see:

Cook, Betty R. *Here Are the Counties of Utah*.  
Bountiful, Utah: B.R. Cook, 1983. (FHL book 979.2  
E6c; computer number 391538.) This book contains  
descriptions and histories of the counties of Utah.

## **COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

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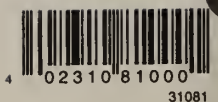
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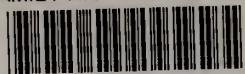








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